

# SEND Support - Going to University



If you are a young person who has SEND and you have decided that you would like to go to university, that is brilliant, as there is a lot of support to help you get there.

- You can ask your college to help you with the UCAS application process.
- You can declare your disability, which will help a university to ensure that support is in place. Make sure to share as much information as you feel comfortable with, to help your university support you the best they can. Declaring this information will not have a negative impact on your application and can only help you.
- The UCAS website has more detailed information regarding this point and there is a link in the next section.



## Can universities meet my needs?

Universities have a legal duty to support students who have SEND. Examples of things a university can do to help you with your studies might include:

- Getting notes of lectures in advance.
- Ensuring course materials are in a format you can understand.
- Making lectures accessible, for example by providing scribes or interpreters or assistive technology.
- Giving you extra time to complete coursework or exams.
- Allocating a support worker who can help you plan and organise your studies.
- Providing accessible buildings and study rooms.

These changes are called reasonable adjustments. You can read more about your right to reasonable adjustments on the website below:

[Disabled Students | Advice And Financial Support | UCAS](#)



## What is Disabled Students' Allowance?



The Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) gives you financial support to cover your study-related costs at university. You can apply for this allowance if you have a mental health problem, long term illness or any other disability.



[Help if you're a student with a learning difficulty, health problem or disability: Disabled Students' Allowance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-if-youre-a-student-with-a-learning-difficulty-health-problem-or-disability-disabled-students-allowance)

The allowance can be claimed on its own or in addition to other student finance that you are entitled to. The nature of support and how much you get depends on your individual needs not your household income.



Some universities offer specialist mentoring services for students who receive DSA. Qualified mentors will meet with you regularly to ensure that you get the best from your university experience.



## Our local university offer

Each university will have a disability policy that describes the support they provide to students. Here are some examples from our local universities. This does not mean that you cannot go out of the local area to attend university; it just gives you some information on the help available.



[Additional Support & Disability Advice | University of Portsmouth](#)



[Disability support | Student Disability & Wellbeing | University of Southampton](#)



[Disability support \(solent.ac.uk\)](#)



[Disability, Learning Difficulties and Medical Conditions - University of Chichester](#)



[Wellbeing - University of Winchester](#)



[Additional Learning Support | Bournemouth University](#)



## Success story quotes:

My University Disability Support services were great in they heard me out and took on board my suggestions as to what I thought would help me best.

I would suggest being open and honest with your lecturers and other support staff. Maybe take a friend along, chat to them.... put it in writing. Whatever works for you!