



## Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

### What is DSA?

A DSA is a government funding for 1:1 support and/or equipment for any University Centre Student who has a disability. DSA is not means tested, household income does not determine DSA, and it does not need to be repaid.

### Who is the DSA service for?

According to DSA, a 'disability' refers to any substantial and long-term condition **which impacts significantly on university life and/or study**.

DSAs can therefore be available for University Students who:

- Have a long-term health condition/s
- Have a mental health condition/s
- Have specific learning differences (SPLD)
- Have dyslexia/dyspraxia/ADHD
- Have an Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Have a Speech, Language and Communication Disorder
- Have a Physical disability
- Have Sensory disability including hearing/vision loss

Other eligibility criteria:

- You must live in England
- Be an undergraduate or postgraduate student
- Qualify for student finance from Student Finance England

- Be studying on a course that lasts a year

## Proving you're eligible

You will not automatically get DSA- you need proof of your eligibility.

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Proof</b>
Disabilities or long-term health condition	A copy of a report or letter from your doctor or consultant - or you can fill in the <a href="#">disability evidence form</a>
Mental health condition	A copy of a report or letter from your doctor or consultant - or you can fill in the <a href="#">disability evidence form</a>
Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia	A copy of a 'diagnostic assessment' from a practitioner psychologist or suitably qualified specialist teacher

### How do I apply for DSA?

Visit [Help if you're a student with a learning difficulty, health problem or disability: How to apply - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) for details.

### Finances & Bursaries

At Sparsholt, we offer financial support to student from Underrepresented groups. This includes a bursary of up to £500 to support students with disability to access a diagnostic assessment for learning differences. For more information and to check your eligibility contact [hebursary@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:hebursary@sparsholt.ac.uk).

### Why applying for DSA prior to beginning at Sparsholt could be beneficial?

If you believe that you will require extra support during your time at university due a substantial and long-term condition, it could be beneficial to apply for DSA prior to enrollment so that should it be needed, support can be in place from the very beginning of your university journey.

You can, however, apply for DSA at any point throughout your Higher Education Journey.

### Do you have any questions or require support with the application process?

Contact the HE Learning Support Team at [HELearningSupport@sparsholt.ac.uk](mailto:HELearningSupport@sparsholt.ac.uk) for support and guidance. The team will be able to answer your questions, assist you with filling out the application form and offer academic support and advice while you wait for your DSA.