

# Disability Resource Centre

## Disabled Students Allowances (DSAs): Information Sheet for Undergraduates

If you have not already applied for Disabled Students Allowances (DSAs), we would encourage you to do so as soon as possible to ensure your funding is in place before the start of your course.

Please find below the links to the main funding body websites for the UK. You will find copies of all DSAs application forms on these sites. Your funding body will depend on where your home address is.

- **England** - Student Finance England (SFE)

<https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>

- **Scotland** - Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS)

[http://www.saas.gov.uk/how\\_to\\_apply/dsa.htm](http://www.saas.gov.uk/how_to_apply/dsa.htm)

- **Wales** - Student Finance Wales (SFW)

[http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/portal/page?\\_pageid=616,6202476&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/portal/page?_pageid=616,6202476&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

- **Northern Ireland** - Student Finance Northern Ireland (SFNI)

[http://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/portal/page?\\_pageid=54,1268397&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/portal/page?_pageid=54,1268397&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

Please note, if you are not covered by one of the above funding bodies, you should contact your Local Authority and ask about support for higher education.

### Why should I apply for DSAs?

You will undoubtedly benefit from applying for DSAs as it could give you specialist equipment, software and human support (such as specialist 1:1 study skills tuition). For more information please follow the link relevant to your home address above.

See Page 2 for further information to help you with your application.

## **The DSAs Application Process**

We have the DSAs application forms for all of these funding bodies on the DRC website at the following link: [www.cam.ac.uk/disability-dsa](http://www.cam.ac.uk/disability-dsa).

The form that you will require will depend on whether or not have applied or will be applying for core support (e.g. maintenance and fees) through one of these funding bodies.

### **If you have applied or will be applying for other support (e.g. maintenance or fees) through one of these funding bodies:**

Some of these funding bodies will allow you to request a DSAs application during your application for fees and maintenance support. Simply complete the relevant section of the Student Finance Application form and a DSAs application form with your details printed on it will be sent to you. You should then check the details, complete the rest of the form and return with evidence of your disability or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. Doctor's letter, Educational Psychologist report etc.).

Alternatively, if you have already applied for maintenance and fee support through one of these funding bodies, you should download and complete the shortened version of the DSAs application form. Each funding body gives them different names as follows:

- DSA1SL Short form (SFE)
- DSA FT (SAAS)
- Slimform DSA1 (SFW)
- DSA1 Slimline form (SFNI)

### **If you have not and do not intend to apply for support for fees and maintenance:**

If you have not applied for any support through one of these funding bodies you should complete the long version or full DSAs application form and forward it to the DRC with evidence of your disability or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. Doctor's letter, Educational Psychologist report etc.). One of our Disability Advisers will complete the relevant section of the DSAs application form and we will forward it to the funding body on your behalf.

### **Photocopies of information only:**

Student Finance England only requires a photocopy of your evidence of your disability, Specific Learning Difficulty or on-going condition, so please do not send your original reports or letters.

