When do I apply?

We encourage all prospective students to apply as soon as possible to help ensure support is ready for when your course begins. You can also apply for DSA at any time during your studies, although restrictions may apply to final year and placement students. It can take two to three months from the point of application to receiving support, so it is advisable to apply at the earliest opportunity.

What evidence do I need to provide?

Evidence will depend on the nature of the disability. Dyslexia, for example, needs to be evidenced via a report written to the SpLD Working Group 2005/DfES guidelines and refer to your academic and examination requirements. A guide to acceptable evidence for all disabilities can be found on the CDS webpages and individual support leaflets. Please be aware any fees for acquiring evidence are not reimbursable from DSA or Loughborough University.

Further information

Data here is correct at April 2019. Up-to-date information about DSA can be found on the DSA webpages and on the CDS website. If you would like to discuss how to access the support at Loughborough University recommended in your Needs Assessment then please contact us.

Bridgeman Building
Loughborough University
Leicestershire
LE11 3TU UK

Mental Health Support Team
T: +44 (0)1509 228338
E: mhst@lboro.ac.uk

Disability Support Team
T: +44 (0)1509 222770
E: disability@lboro.ac.uk

Loughborough University

A brief guide on how to apply for the Disabled Students Allowance

Disabled Students' Allowances
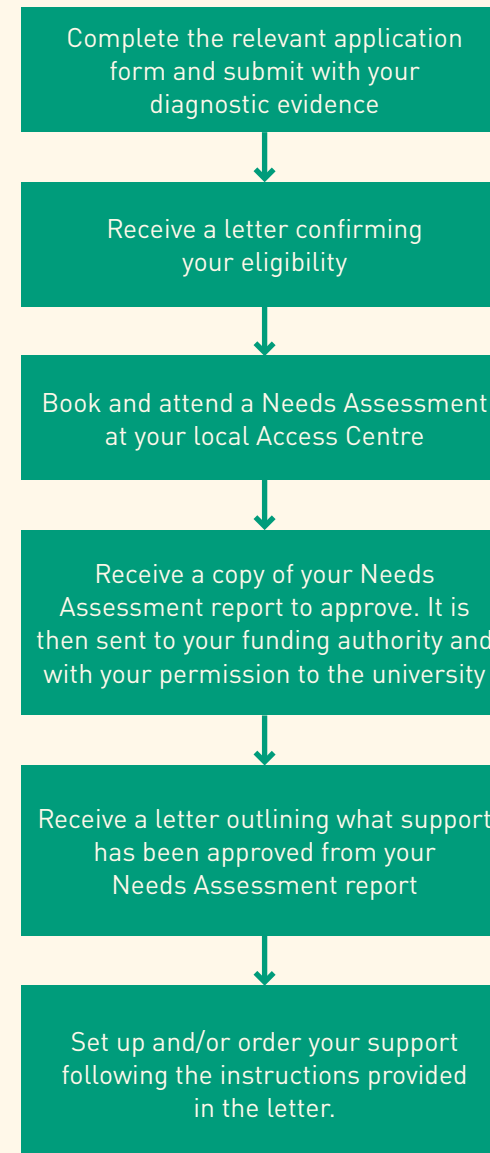
www.lboro.ac.uk/services/cds

What is Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)?

DSA is a targeted grant that can pay for study-related costs which may be incurred at university as a result of a disability (physical or sensory), long term medical condition (e.g. diabetes, Crohn's disease), specific learning difference (e.g. dyslexia, ADD), mental health issue (e.g. eating disorders) or autistic spectrum condition (e.g. Asperger's Syndrome). It is a non-means tested grant administered through your local funding authority (SFE, SAAS, SFW or NI Library Boards).

Am I eligible?

You must be an undergraduate or postgraduate student, qualify for student finance from a British funding body, and be studying on a course that lasts at least one year. Eligibility is also based on the definition of disability in the Equality Act (2010) and as such your funding authority will require up-to-date evidence of your condition, a guide to which can be found on our website.

How do I apply?

Complete the relevant application form and submit with your diagnostic evidence

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Receive a letter confirming your eligibility

↓

Book and attend a Needs Assessment at your local Access Centre

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Receive a copy of your Needs Assessment report to approve. It is then sent to your funding authority and with your permission to the university

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Receive a letter outlining what support has been approved from your Needs Assessment report

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Set up and/or order your support following the instructions provided in the letter.

Here you will meet with a Needs Assessor who has expertise in identifying study related support for disabled students. Your assessor may discuss computer software, equipment, study strategies and human support which should help with the impact of your condition on your studies. The assessor will also discuss your learning styles, preferences and consider the course you will be studying. We recommend you read about the support at Loughborough University on our website so you have a good understanding yourself about what you might need to access and what is available at the University. Currents students should also tell the Assessor about any support you may already be accessing at the University.