

Supporting students with disabilities

Higher education is possible for all!



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Sheffield Hallam University
and The University of Sheffield

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Who are Higher Education Progression Partnership



Hepp

- provide impartial advice and guidance about higher education
- work with all schools across the Sheffield City Region
- encourage more children, young people and adults to consider higher education opportunities
- are jointly funded by Sheffield Hallam University and The University of Sheffield.

What will be covered today

- Understand that higher education is available to students with a disability
- Understand the support available
- Understand what finance is available to a disabled learner
- Know how to support a disabled learner when thinking of higher education
- Understand the jargon and how it is different from school to university



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Your support

As a community each and every one of us can help to change the life of another. Whether you are a teacher, adviser, parent or general public. As you build trust with an individual, questions are asked and those questions could change the path of an individual.

Your support, encouragement and help could make the difference to a student's journey through life.



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What you can do to help!

- Listen
- Encourage
- Ask questions (either to the student or to an organisation that can advise)
- Support



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What is a disability

EQUALITY ACT (2010)

disabled people are those “with any physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect upon their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities”

“anyone who has any diagnosis which interferes with how they study or engage with their higher education course”

Including:

- specific learning difficulties
- mental health conditions
- physical disabilities
- sensory disabilities
- long-term health conditions

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Disability Services within a Higher Education Institution

All Higher Education Institutions have a disability team.

They usually link with disabled applicants over the summer prior to starting their course for a confidential discussion regarding the best way to support the individual.

They are there to support students with disabilities. They want to remove the challenges and encourage the real potential of each learner.



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Applying to study on a higher education course

- Applicants will complete a UCAS or higher education application for their chosen course.
- *Important:* Advise students to **disclose** that they have a disability, this will flag to the disability service of their chosen institution and will only benefit the student through their higher education journey.

N.B. Information is not collected from schools; higher education institutions rely on the applicants informing them of their disability

Jargon

- Disability
- SENDCo
- Disability Adviser or Learning Support Co-ordinator
- Disability Service
- Medical Evidence
- DSA



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Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

- DSA is a government funded allowance
- Non-means tested, not dependant on household income
- Non-repayable grant, is not a loan, does not have to be repaid
- Covers additional study-related costs incurred because of disability
- Can include equipment, assistive technology, non-medical help such as specialist mentor or study skills tutor



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Who can apply for DSA?

- Anyone with a condition or impairment that affects your ability to study.
- An undergraduate or postgraduate student.
- UK students.
- Studying on a full-time or part-time course that lasts at least a year.
- Does not include apprenticeships (contact the disability service to discuss support)
- Goes with the student to any university.



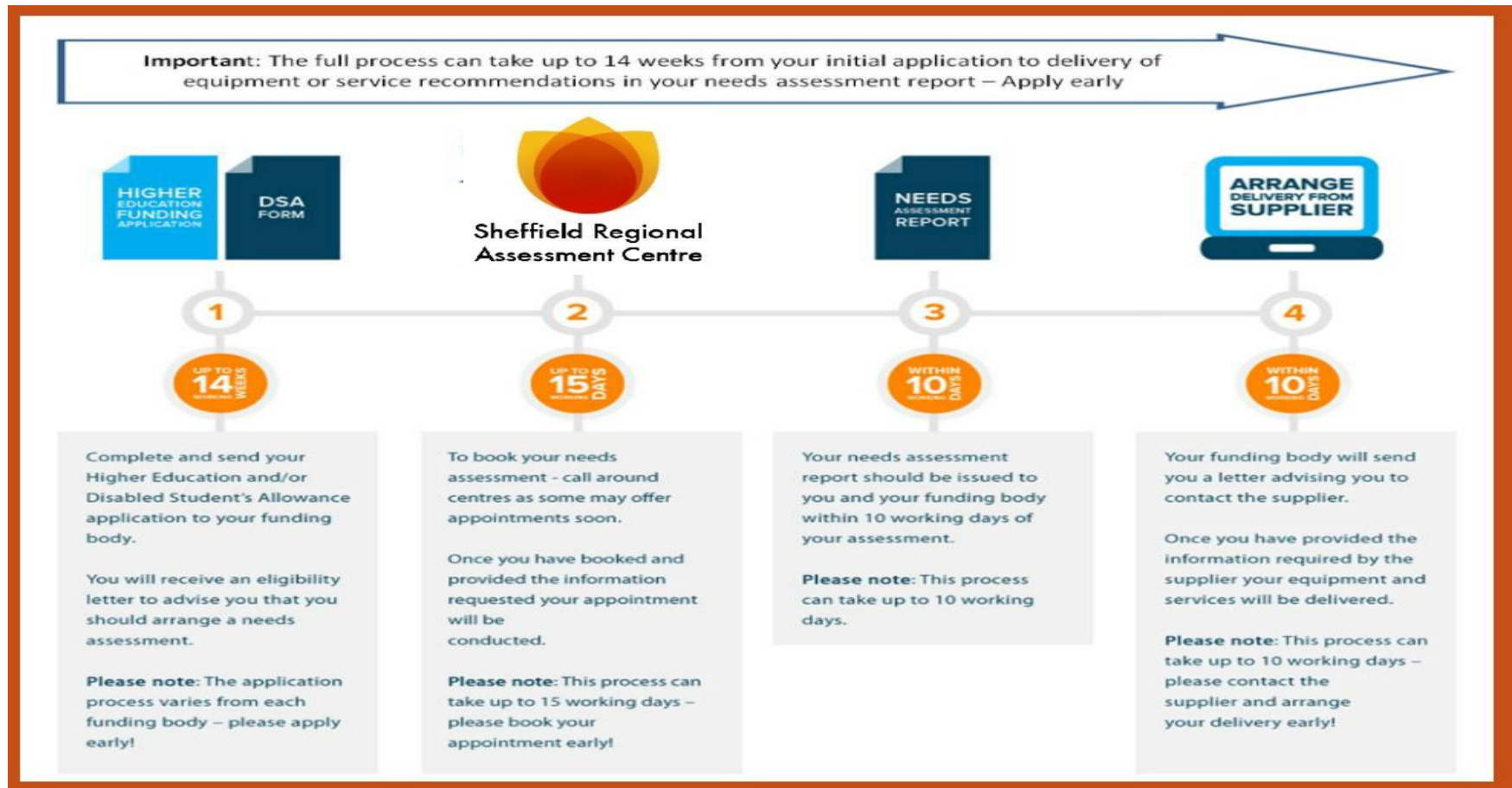
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How does a student apply



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Support at a Higher Education Institution

- Wellbeing
- Academic
- Disability Adviser
- Disabled Students' Allowance
- Inclusive learning environments
- Individual Support

Support at a Higher Education Institution

Inclusive learning environments

Beneficial for all students as not all students will disclose that they are disabled or access the disability service

- physical accessibility, specialist software, alternative assessment methods, accessible handouts, recordings of lectures...the list goes on

Support at a Higher Education Institution

Individual reasonable adjustments

This is agreed through discussion between the higher education institution and the student. All disabled students can be considered for support. Support is dependent upon individual need, the course and the provision of documentary evidence

- Exam support, workload management, access to the learning environment, recordings, note takers, lab assistants, learning support plans...the list goes on

N.B. There are variations in the type of support available across different higher education providers

Cameron Student Ambassador



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The Hepp Hub: www.hepp.ac.uk

- has a lot of useful information/resources about higher education
- provides a number of links to organisations who can help support you in your journey to higher education
- hosts specific information for students with disabilities, young carers, care experienced and mature students

Evaluation

To help us support you at future events we would appreciate you completing our evaluation form either by using the QR code or the web link. It takes approximately 2 minutes to complete.

https://shusls.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b4xcSqTN5VOUHL8



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Thank you for attending our session

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