

Guide for Providing Suitable Medical Evidence

The Student Wellbeing Centre is a service provided to all students at the University of Lincoln. You may find at some point during your time working with staff at the Student Wellbeing Centre that you may be asked to provide medical evidence to access specific areas of support. In this case, you will be guided by our staff to help you provide the correct evidence. In addition, we have produced the guidance below to help you better understand why we require the evidence and the type of evidence that would be considered acceptable.

The Student Wellbeing Centre at the University of Lincoln is committed to providing support for students who have a disability under the Equality Act 2010.

Suitable Evidence

We can look at putting a **Personalised Academic Study Support** Plan in place for you if you obtain suitable medical evidence. This would be **Confirmation of a formal diagnosis** (**must** be: 'student has diagnosis of anxiety' or 'student has chronic fatigue'. This could be through a formal letter or evidence from an online medical platform.

As stated above, Student Wellbeing offer support for students who have been diagnosed with a specific learning difference. We would require a document that:

- Has a clear diagnosis
- Has used appropriate adult tests (e.g. educational psychologist assessment)

***Please note, Student Wellbeing do not accept JCQ access arrangements.**

If your diagnosis and the way it affects you impacts on your day to day life and is likely to affect your studies, you may be eligible for Disabled Students Allowances (DSA). This is administered by Student Finance England and you can apply for this no matter which university you attend. You would need to complete an application form and provide medical evidence of your condition to Student Finance England.

A person is disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on their ability to do normal daily activities (this includes study-related activities).

'Substantial' is more than minor- e.g. it takes much longer than it usually would to complete a daily task like getting dressed. 'Long-term' means that it may well last for 12 months or more.

Suitable medical evidence for **Disabled Students Allowance** would include:

- A diagnosis
- Whether the condition is long/short term
- Whether the condition is fluctuating
- Possible effects of the disability on a students' learning/attendance etc.
- Impacts on day to day activities

It would be helpful if the evidence stated any effects on:

- Concentration
- Motivation
- Short/long term memory
- Ability to travel on public transport
- Read/writing for long periods
- Use of computers
- Ability to walk any distances
- Effects of medication (sleep, fatigue etc.)

All medical evidence for Disabled Student Allowance should be on headed paper and the letter should be typed in English and signed. All evidence should be provided by the student, Student Wellbeing will not be able to contact any professionals.

Evidence Received	PASS	DSA
JCQ (Joint Council Qualification) access arrangements	✗	✗
DAST (Dyslexia Adult Screening Test)	✗	✗
Statement of Specific Education Needs (which clearly states diagnosis and impact)	✓	✗
Section 139a transitional document from LA outlining support post 16	✓	✗
EHCP – Educational Health Care Plan 0-25	✓	✗
Letter from School - SENCO	✗	✗
Letter/Email from external partners SARC/EDAN etc.	✓	✗
Letter from professional (nurse, doctor or counsellor) without a formal diagnosis e.g. “student experiencing symptoms of...”	✗	✗
Slip from University Health Centre	✗	✗
Educational Psychologist assessment under 16	✓	✓
Evidence from online GP Platform (clearly stating diagnosis)	✓	✓
Clinic specialist e.g., Rheumatology	✓	✓
Psychiatrist (which clearly states diagnosis and impact)	✓	✓
Psychologist (which clearly states diagnosis and impact)	✓	✓
Prescriptions	✗	✗
Emails from professionals (which clearly states diagnosis and impact)	✓	✗
SWC Counsellors	✓	✗
Translated evidence in a different language by qualified translator (clearly stating diagnosis)	✓	✓
Carers assessment form	✓	✗