

Declaring a Disability in the University Applications Process

**Aimhigher Leicester City and
Leicestershire**

Sharron Sturgess
Loughborough University Disability Officer

Andy Johnson
WP Officer Leicester University

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www.aimhigher-leicester-shire.org.uk

What is a disability?



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UCAS Classifications 2010

UCAS	Disability	Includes:
A	No disability	
B	social/communication impairment	Aspergers, ASD
C	Visually Impaired	Blind, or partial sight uncorrected by glasses
D	Hearing impaired	d/Deaf hard of hearing
E	Chronic illness, medical condition	cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, epilepsy
F	Mental health difficultly	Depression, anxiety, eating disorder
G	Specific Learning Difficulty	Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, AD(H)D
H	Physical Impairment	Wheelchair user, difficulty using arms
I	Other disabilities	Not listed above
J	2 or more impairments	Combinations of the above

Why Students might not declare

- Believe it will affect perceptions of their academic status
- Not realising how important it is, what support it will lead to
- Not seeing their issue/difference/difficulty as a disability
- Believe everyone will know all details
- Previous negative experiences
- Believe nothing will happen anyway
- Believe it will affect their job prospects later
- Cultural issues

Besides declaring a code on their form

- Open days, find the stand and ask the questions!
- Personal statements
- Academic tutor reference
- Direct to the institution's Disability Office
- At interview
- During Clearing
- Exceptional circumstances

Why declare?

The University

Disclosure does not equal discrimination. The offer of a place will be based on academic ability and record.

It is used as a basis for offering support....

and so that the University can meet it's legal obligations under **SENDA**.

Why declare?

The Student

Access the support you are entitled to in order to reach your academic potential at University.

Disability as part of the whole University experience, it doesn't just affect academic studies.

For example, medical conditions and accommodation needs.

What happens once they declare?

Information is passed on to the University's Disability office by;

- Database information
- Admissions department in the Academic Registry
- Admissions staff in departments
- Students' self referral direct to Disability Office

What happens once they declare?

The University's Disability Office will contact the student to ask for more information about their support needs.

They may ask for **evidence** in order to put support in place

They can send out information about the support available, DSA, accommodation, etc.

Support might include

- Exam concessions
- Library support
- Human support
- Departmental support
- Inclusive curriculum
- Accommodation and associated facilities
- Medical and/or care support
- DSA

Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

- What is it?
- How do you apply?
- Importance of good evidence.
- Bridging the Gap
- What can it be used for?
 - Equipment
 - Non Medical Helpers
 - General Allowance

Finally

Any questions?

Further information is available at www.ucas.tv

- Direct link on UCAS tv to Disabled Students: <http://www.ucas.tv/?id=129>
- Direct link on UCAS tv to Disability support – advice from disability officers: <http://www.ucas.tv/?id=134>