

STUDENT SUPPORT INFORMATION NOTE (SSIN)

Arrangements for students funded under the Education (Student Support) Regulations

DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCE (DSA)

To: Student Finance administrators and practitioners in higher education providers; DSA assessors, assessment centres and suppliers; Student Finance advisors, and The Student Loans Company

**SSIN 03/23
February 2023**

Dear Colleagues,

Update on Needs Assessment Centre – New and Outreach Centre applications with effect from 00:05 31 January 2023

The following letter was issued by The Student Loans Company on behalf of the Department for Education on 31 January 2023 with immediate effect.

Dear Colleagues

RE: UPDATE ON THE DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCE (DSA) CONTRACT PROCUREMENT

The Student Loans Company (SLC) has conducted a procurement exercise to establish contracts for Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) equipment and needs assessments on behalf of DfE and Welsh Government.

SLC has notified the successful and unsuccessful bidders of the outcome following a robust and stringent commercial process.

The new contract arrangements will be phased in through transition arrangements; these are expected to be completed in 2023. As the new contract arrangements will come into force within the current calendar year, DfE and the Welsh Government will no longer accept applications for new Assessment Centre or applications for Outreach Centres. This is effective from 00:05 31 January 2023.

If there were any applications made before 00:05 31st January 2023, DfE will be in contact with the applicants to establish whether they would still like their application(s) to be processed after receiving this new information.

If there are any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the DSA Team at Disabled.STUDENTALLOWANCES@education.gov.uk.

Regards

The Disabled Students' Allowance Team

We hope this information is helpful.

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Department
for Education