

**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 needs assessors; DSA non-medical help suppliers; student finance advisors; and the Student Loans Company

**SSIN 05/26**

Dear Colleagues,

This is a notification that DfE has updated its guidance on managing conflicts of interest in Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA), which is published at:

<https://www.practitioners.slc.co.uk/exchange-blog/2020/september/10092020-guidance-for-nmh-suppliers/>.

The updates are as follows:

- The guidance prohibiting the delivery of DSA funded support to friends or family members (paragraph 14, bullet point 2) has been updated to clarify that this applies to suppliers and support workers as well as to students.
- An additional point has been added (paragraph 14, bullet point 4) to clarify specifically that students are not permitted to deliver DSA funded taxi travel during their course if they have had DSA funded taxi travel agreed by SLC for the same period.
- The section prohibiting students from delivering DSA funded non-medical help (NMH) support if they have been assessed as 'needing' similar DSA funded support by a DSA needs assessor and the recommendation has been agreed by SLC (paragraphs 15 to 17) has been expanded to note that anyone who wishes to request an exception to provide support in this scenario should contact DfE on [dsa.coi@education.gov.uk](mailto:dsa.coi@education.gov.uk) to discuss.

If you have any queries, please contact the Disabled Students' Allowance Team at: [Disabled.STUDENTALLOWANCES@education.gov.uk](mailto:Disabled.STUDENTALLOWANCES@education.gov.uk).

Regards

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