## ACCESSING SUPPORT (REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

| What evidence do I need to provide to show I have a Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) such as dyslexia? | Diagnostic assessment reports/evidence of Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs) are considered on a case by case basis.

Your assessment report must provide **clear evidence of, and the rationale for,** the identification of a specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia -see SpLD Working Group 2005 DfES Guidelines p.5-6) which **meets the definition of disability in Section 6 of the Equality Act 2010.**

The evidence should “relate to the agreed definitions of the relevant SpLD and to the related diagnostic criteria” (SpLD Working Group 2005/DfES Guidelines p.23).

A Joint Council for Qualifications Form 8 Application of Access Arrangements is **NOT SUFFICIENT** to show that you have a Specific Learning Difficulty.

Please note that arrangements that were in place at a previous institution will NOT necessarily be made at UoB.

You must provide:

Either

A full diagnostic assessment report completed in accordance with SASC guidelines [https://sasc.org.uk/](https://sasc.org.uk/), signed by a Chartered Educational Psychologist who holds a current Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) certificate (or equivalent for assessments carried out overseas).

**OR**

A full diagnostic assessment report, which meets SASC guidelines, [https://sasc.org.uk/](https://sasc.org.uk/) completed by a Specialist Teacher Assessor holding a current assessment practising certificate (APC).

For further information on suitable tests, download Revised Test Guidelines 2021 from: [https://sasc.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?id=101](https://sasc.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?id=101)

If you have dyspraxia, which has been identified by a medical professional, you will need to provide documentation confirming the diagnosis and identifying how your SpLD is likely to impact on your performance (in the education setting) on a day to day basis.

| What if I do not have the required evidence? | You are responsible for obtaining your full diagnostic assessment and meeting the cost. We would advise you to have the assessment before you come to University. |
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| What reasonable adjustments might I get as a result of providing the required evidence? | • 25% extra time in examinations and possibly the use of a computer. Candidates for A100/A101 (Medicine) should note that extra time is only permissible in non-clinical exams.  
• Lecture outlines/reading materials 24 hours before taught sessions.  
• Use of a recording device in lectures. |
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| What about the Disabled Students’ Allowances? | Home students can apply for Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs) to cover some of the extra disability-related costs they may have whilst studying at University.  
If you are applying for [Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disabled-students-allowances), your funding body (e.g. Student Finance England) will also need evidence to decide if you are eligible for funding.  
N.B. The evidence required by your funding body may not match what the University needs in order to make recommendations for reasonable adjustments. |