

## What support does UCA provide for disabled students?

We have a Disability & SpLD team at each of our four main campuses and provide services and visits by arrangement to our satellite campus locations at the Royal School of Needlework and Maidstone TV Studios.

Our service is designed to help disabled students overcome or reduce barriers to learning and work towards more independent learning strategies, coping strategies and positive approaches to managing stress and anxiety.

### Help to settle into University life

Starting university is an anxious time which can be increased if you have a disability or specific learning difference. We can offer support to help you get to know your campus and the services available to you.

You may benefit from attending a relaxed **welcome and orientation day** delivered to a smaller group of students prior to the main induction and welcome week in September.

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### Contact us

For more information or to make an appointment with the Learning Support Manager or Dyslexia Adviser, please contact the Disability & SpLD team directly:

UCA Canterbury:	+44 (0)1227 817 455
UCA Epsom:	+44 (0)1372 202 431
UCA Farnham:	+44 (0)1252 892 738
UCA Rochester:	+44 (0)1634 888 714

[disability@uca.ac.uk](mailto:disability@uca.ac.uk)  
[students.uca.ac.uk/student-services/disability](https://students.uca.ac.uk/student-services/disability)



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## Support for Success

Information for applicants with a disability or Specific Learning Difference (SpLD)

## What advice and guidance is available?

Each of our campuses has a designated Disability & SpLD team, who can offer advice and guidance on:

- Physical access to our learning spaces, student accommodation and general campus facilities.
  - Reasonable adjustments and how we can support your learning.
  - Support to attend UCA open days and applicant days.
  - Help to contact specialist external suppliers, for example Diagnostic Assessors (for dyslexia assessments), Needs Assessors and Non-Medical Help Providers.
  - Help with Disabled Student Allowance (DSA) applications for eligible students (HE UK students).
  - Arrangements for students with Educational Health and Care Plans.
  - Early discussions on support or reasonable adjustments you may need at UCA, if you are not entitled to DSA or Educational Health and Care Plan funding.
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## Support for Open Days and Applicant Days

Our staff are keen to meet and talk to you about any support needs you may have or to answer any questions or queries. Our Open Days provide an ideal opportunity to talk to one of our specialists and seek further information, advice and guidance.

If you have already applied to UCA you may also have been given a date to attend an Applicant Day. This event provides an ideal opportunity for you to meet a Disability or Specific Learning Difference (SpLD) specialist if you haven't already made contact. They can talk to you confidentially about your disability and what you may need to support your learning. They can also advise on what the University offers as reasonable adjustments for your chosen course. Letting us know early will help us to make sure you have everything you need in place for when you start your course.

## Will I be eligible for support?

1. If you are a UK Higher Education student and have a diagnosed condition (i.e. by a medical practitioner or diagnostic assessor for dyslexia) which has an adverse impact on your learning, then you may be eligible for additional support through the Disabled Students Allowance.

UCA can provide you with further advice on your eligibility and can assist you with making the application. If you are awarded funding, you will receive support from a recommended non-medical help provider, however you will be able to access this support on UCA campuses.

We recommend that you apply for DSA as early as possible. More information is available at:

[www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas)

If you are a UK Further Education student and have evidence of a disability or learning difference, UCA will provide support for you from our own specialist teams.

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## How are my support needs determined?

### Further education

If you are a UK student with medical or diagnostic evidence, you will need to meet with our Learning Support Manager to discuss your individual support needs. If you have an EHC Plan, we will discuss this with you and work with you to set up the support that you require.

### Higher education

If you are a UK student and are awarded DSA funding, your support needs will be determined by an independent Needs Assessor. The recommended support will be tailored closely to your learning needs, how your course is delivered and the reasonable adjustments UCA offer. We recommend you share your Needs Assessment report with our Learning Support Manager as soon as possible so that we can ensure that any recommended reasonable adjustments are applied.