# University Support Plan Assessment and Disabled Students’ Allowance Assessment

If you’re applying for Disabled Students’ Allowance (<https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>) then it’s very likely you’ll have two different support assessments to access the support you need. The differences in the appointments are outlined below:

## University Support Plan Assessment

This is a meeting with a disability adviser and takes place at the University. It can only take place once you have fully registered with the DSO (see separate sheet for instructions on how to do this). They’ll work with you to agree what support you need from the University e.g.

* Exam Support
* Library Support
* Academic Support (i.e. support from your University School or department)

This support plan will then be emailed to you after the meeting, and the information in it will be sent to appropriate University staff (if you have given permission)

## Disabled Students’ Allowance Assessment (often called a Needs Assessment Report or Assessment of Need)

This is a meeting with an assessor from an independent Assessment Centre which is not part of the University. Your funding body (Student Finance England/NHS etc.) will write to you to ask you to have this assessment, when they have accepted your application for Disabled Students’ Allowance.

This assessment looks at whether you have a disability-related need for:

* **Equipment** e.g. assistive software, recording devices
* **Human Support** e.g. study coach, mental health mentor (**excluding** personal care support – see separate sheet)
* **General Allowance** support e.g. book allowance
* **Travel support**

The report will be sent to you after your meeting, and will also be sent to your Funding Body, who will then decide whether to approve the recommendations, and will write to you to let you know.