

Obtaining Medical Evidence: FAQs for students

Students require medical evidence for a variety of reasons whilst at University. Evidence can be obtained through a variety of routes and it is not always necessary to make a GP appointment to obtain evidence. Use the guide below to decide the best way to help you.

I need evidence for my Special Considerations application (including Deadline Extension Request)	<p>If you have been unwell for 5 days or less you can use the University's Self Certification Form. You DO NOT need to see a doctor.</p>	<p>The self-certification form can be found on the reverse of the Special Considerations Request Form: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/special-considerations-form.pdf</p>
	<p>If you were unwell for 6 days or more, you will need a retrospective medical report from your GP</p>	<p>Always check first with your surgery – it is not always necessary to make an appointment with a GP. In most surgeries where you are already registered and known to the GP, you can simply complete a medical report request form. These are usually available at the surgery reception. A fee will usually be charged by the surgery for this service.</p>
I need evidence for my Disabled Student Allowance (DSA) application	<p>For guidance and forms go to Gov.uk website which will route you to forms for Student Finance England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland</p>	<p>Applicants are usually asked to complete a form and then pass it to the GP with whom they are registered. For some funding bodies, a letter detailing the information below is required. Always check with the funding body.</p> <p>Key information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the diagnosis 2. how long symptoms have been experienced 3. the impact on studies and impact on daily life (see note below) <p>Important note for GPs: please ensure that for DSA applications a description is given of the likely impact on study of the student's condition. A one word diagnosis (e.g. 'anxiety') is likely to be rejected by Student Finance England. This can unnecessarily delay and frustrate a student's application.</p>
I need evidence for Enabling Services	<p>Enabling Services requires medical evidence so that they can recommend reasonable adjustments and Additional Exam requirements (AERs)</p>	<p>Always check first with your surgery: it is not always necessary to make an appointment with a GP. If you are already registered with and known to the GP, a medical report request form may be required and you don't need to make an appointment. These are usually available at the surgery reception.</p> <p>If you are registering for the first time with the surgery it is important that you talk to the GP about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. your diagnosis 2. how long symptoms have been experienced 3. the impact on studies AND impact on daily life <p>This information MUST be written in the GP report. A fee will usually be charged by the surgery for this service.</p>
I need evidence for my DSA and for Enabling Services	<p>You do not necessarily need to duplicate evidence for two processes.</p>	<p>If you have already completed a DSA application, this will be sufficient as evidence for Enabling Services. (Please note however that the reverse does not apply: DSA funders will not accept evidence <i>other than that</i> requested via the application form)</p>