



## Studying with a chronic illness or disability

Are you interested in a study at the University of Amsterdam - or are you already studying - and do you have a chronic illness or disability? In case you need adjustments in class or at exams, the UvA will gladly help. The UvA offers, depending on your illness or disability, various possibilities for support during courses and exams in order to offer you a pleasant as possible program. Examination arrangements cannot influence the quality nor degree of difficulty of a course or study programme. Therefore, make sure to read the information below carefully, so you know what to expect in support, before you choose a study programme at the UvA.

### Acknowledged diagnoses

The University of Amsterdam does not recognize *all* issued diagnoses. The only recognized learning disabilities the UvA recognizes are dyslexia and dyscalculia. In case of these disabilities you can upload the report of the diagnose via: [www.uva.nl/dyslexia](http://www.uva.nl/dyslexia)

Examples of diagnoses the UvA does not recognize as a disability are: unreadable handwriting, dysgraphia, dyspraxia or other unspecified learning disabilities. Of course, in the case you expect or face difficulties with studying, the student counsellor will gladly advice you.

### Proof of chronic illness or disability

To be eligible for an examination arrangement, the UvA needs recent proof of your chronic disease or disability. In that case only, we are able to advise your study programme constructively about the arrangements you need to study without barriers.

The following proof is required:

- Chronic illness, mobile or sensory disability:
  1. in consultation with the student a statement by a General Practitioner or a specialist stating how your disability affects your studies or
  2. a print of your medical record
- For psychiatric disorders, for example, AD(H)D, autism): a diagnostic report by a psychiatrist or a clinical psychologist
- For dyslexia and dyscalculia: a report of a health care psychologist, a child and youth psychologist or a general remedial educationalist

### Who should you turn to?

- **1. Student counsellor**

During this appointment, we will discuss these matters:

- the way your disability or chronic illness affects your study ability
- the need for one or more arrangements during classes and exams
- the range of guidance and support



## Facilities- apply in good time

### *Education*

Provisions for your study programme (i.e. conversion of course material for blind students) should be consulted with a student counsellor **at least 4 months** prior to the start of your studies. The student counsellor and your study adviser will consult about the possible facilities.

### *Exams*

The UvA offers the following arrangements during exams, in case these are requested at a student counsellor **at least 6 weeks in** advance:

- **Extra time during exams**
- **Laptop (only with motoric disabilities and after consultation with the study adviser)**
- **Other facilities, depending on the disability and necessity (after consultation with the study advisor)**

## **2. Study advisor**

A study advisor can advise you on the courses you would like to take, how to set up a custom study plan and can offer support in organizing exam arrangements.

## **3. Student psychologist**

A student psychologist of the UvA can offer you counselling like individual conversations, groups, workshops and training

## **4. Student doctor**

A student doctor has specific knowledge of student life and expertise in students' health issues. You can contact a GP if you're ill, if you're concerned about your health or in case you need a prescription, a medical examination or a vaccination.

## **Contact with a student counsellor**

In order to be well informed of what the University of Amsterdam has to offer before the start of your studies, you can consult a student counsellor. To make an appointment or for phone consultation, go to [www.uva.nl/studentcounsellors](http://www.uva.nl/studentcounsellors).

Please check our website for information about support and counselling:  
[www.uva.nl/disability](http://www.uva.nl/disability)

Contact with a study advisor: visit the website of your program

Contact with a student psychologist: [www.uva.nl/studentpsychologists](http://www.uva.nl/studentpsychologists)

Contact with a student doctor: [www.huisartsenamsterdam.nl/engels/international](http://www.huisartsenamsterdam.nl/engels/international)