



Australian Government
Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations



National Disability Coordination Officer Program

IN BRIEF...

**Your Ready Reference
for
studying at
TAFE,
University
or with a
Private Training
Organisation
in SA**

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tafeSA

The Education Standards in Brief

You can get assistance with:

- Enrolment
- Participation in your course
- Curriculum development, accreditation and delivery
- Student support services
- Elimination of harassment and victimisation

The law won't support:

- Lowering standards
- Ignoring the inherent competency requirements
- Ignoring workplace health and safety

One more thing:

An education institution can not use the cost of flexible teaching, learning and assessment as a reason to discriminate against a student

Contact your NDCO

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Region 25: Pt Lincoln, West Coast and Eyre Peninsula, Whyalla, Pt Pirie, Flinders Ranges, Far North (including Pt Augusta), Yorke Peninsula, Lower North, Barossa and Riverland

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Disability on Campus

Each of the universities and TAFE SA have different contacts and procedures for arranging disability support.

These websites will tell you how to get in touch with the people *you* need.

University of Adelaide

www.adelaide.edu.au/disability

Flinders University

www.flinders.edu.au/current-students/healthandcounselling/disabilities.cfm

University of South Australia

www.unisa.edu.au/ltu/contact/teams/disability.asp

TAFE SA

www.tafesa.edu.au/Students/DisabilitySupport/tabid/658/Default.aspx

“But I don’t have a disability!”

Many students don’t think they have a disability.
But let’s look at the Disability Discrimination Act (the ‘DDA’)

Section 4 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA), defines disability as:
Total or partial loss of the person’s bodily or mental functions; or
Total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
The presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness;
or
The presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of part of a person’s body; or
A disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
A disorder, illness or disease that affects a person’s thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour.

It includes a disability that:

1. Presently exists; or
2. Previously existed but no longer exists; or
3. May exist in the future; or
4. Is imputed to a person.

You might not be able to see a disability, but it may still impair how a person contributes and participates unless adequate provision or help is given.

For universities and TAFEs, disability is anything about you that might mean that you need some extra help in participating in the course or completing the requirements. Some conditions that have resulted in access plans being developed for a student – and may surprise you - include:

Colour blindness	Mild Aspergers
Anxiety	Attention Deficit
Cancer treatment	Flat feet
Dyslexia	Broken bones
Incontinence	Depression
Obsessive compulsive disorder	
Concentration, reading and writing difficulties	

Still think disability isn’t about you? Still think disability has to be forever?

The legal framework supporting students with disabilities

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Commonwealth)

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Search/Disability%20Discrimination%20Act>

Institutional and government departmental Disability Action Plans

http://www.hreoc.gov.au/disability_rights/action_plans/Register/register.html

Australian Human Rights Commission

www.humanrights.gov.au

Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (South Australia)

www.eoc.sa.gov.au

Australian Quality Training Framework

www.training.com.au

Education Standards

http://www.ag.gov.au/www/agd/agd.nsf/Page/Humanrightsandanti-discrimination_DisabilityStandardsforEducation

[http://www.comlaw.gov.au/ComLaw/Legislation/LegislativeInstrument1.nsf/](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/ComLaw/Legislation/LegislativeInstrument1.nsf/frameLodgmentattachments/9006BFF67F0BE554CA256FD50023EB0A)

[frameLodgmentattachments/9006BFF67F0BE554CA256FD50023EB0A](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/ComLaw/Legislation/LegislativeInstrument1.nsf/frameLodgmentattachments/9006BFF67F0BE554CA256FD50023EB0A)

Codes of conduct for TAFE and universities

Equity and diversity policies and procedures

Be confident! All of these instruments give us the authority to ask for *your* rights!

Money Matters

Flinders University has over 224 scholarships that you may be eligible for. Look here:

<http://www.flinders.edu.au/scholarships-system/main-display-undergraduate.cfm>

Some other places you may want to look:

Scholarships: http://www.adcet.edu.au/Student_Resources/Financial_Matters/Scholarships_and_Awards.chpx

Benefits and Payments:

http://www.adcet.edu.au/Student_Resources/Financial_Matters/Benefits_and_Payments.chpx

If you want to study at university or other higher education providers, you should find out as much as you can about Commonwealth Supported Places, HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP fee support.

Information is available here:
<http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/>

Some church organisations, service organisations, chambers of commerce and ethnic friendship societies have been known to assist students in financial difficulty. If you find yourself in a difficult situation financially and have contacts with such an organisation, you may wish to approach them for assistance.

Money Matters

If you're concerned about the costs of your study, you may want to check out the following for information about scholarships, grants and other financial support

TAFE SA's Money Matters brochure has information about:

Fee Concessions	Fee Assistance
Paying Fees by Instalments	Scholarships
Financial Assistance	
Centrelink Assistance	

Contact Student Services on any campus for a copy.

The **University of South Australia's** website has information about the University's Equity Scholarships as well as other scholarships available to students at university. Equity Scholarships may be available to students with the following backgrounds:

Continuing Students	Rural Students
New Students	Indigenous Students

Economically Disadvantaged Students

Check it out!

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/scholarship/>

The **University of Adelaide** has a comprehensive website with information about scholarships available to students. Eligible students include:

Commencing Students	Continuing Students
Students in Financial Need	Students with Disabilities

Students from Rural and Remote Areas

Students from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Backgrounds

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/>

Handy Websites

South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre

www.satac.edu.au

University of South Australia

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/disabilityservices/default.asp>

University of Adelaide

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/disability/>

Flinders University

<http://www.flinders.edu.au/current-students/healthandcounselling/disabilities.cfm>

TAFE SA

<http://www.tafesa.edu.au/services/disability-support.aspx>

National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO)

www.deewr.gov.au/ndco

NDCO South Australia

www.adcet.edu.au/ndco/sa

ADCET (everything you want to know about being a student with a disability)

www.adcet.edu.au

Australian Human Rights Commission

www.humanrights.gov.au/disabilityrights

Australia's Career Information and Exploration Service

www.myfuture.edu.au

Career Moves: Transition for Young People with a Disability (NSW)

www.careermoves.net.au

Australian Council for Private Education and Training

www.acpet.edu.au

Practical help that you could ask for as part of your access plan

Readers such as screen readers to read aloud the text
from an electronic file
Voice recognition software
Auslan interpreters
Text in alternative formats
Adaptation of equipment
Alternative assessment methods
Extra time for essays/exams/work
Physical access modifications
Hearing loops or assistive hearing devices
Special equipment
Note takers
Electronic versions of lectures

help us to help you!

Before you start your course, talk about your disability with a Disability Adviser or Student Services Officer

How will your disability impact on your study?
Will you need note takers, interpreters, extensions of time, learning support?

Does your medication affect your study? How?
Do you have trouble getting started in the morning? Can't concentrate for long? Need to be taken at a particular time, so you need to take breaks at particular times?

Is your disability permanent or episodic?
Will we need to work around episodes?

Is your disability noticeable or not noticeable?
If we can't see your disability, your lecturer may not know you have it, so may not make the correct allowances unless we discuss it with them.

What services and accommodations you have now to support your study and what you might want.

Whether your disability/condition will prevent you from successfully completing some core components of the course or program you wish to enrol in.

Be ready with evidence to support your request for disability accommodations.