Advice for dyslexic or disabled applicants

The University welcomes applications from students with dyslexia or any other disability, and promises to judge your application solely on academic grounds. We have designed our teaching programmes with a range of disabilities in mind and hope that they are accessible to a wide range of potential students.

We have an excellent track record of supporting the needs of students with dyslexia or other forms of specific learning difference. We have mind-mapping software and literacy support software networked across all computers. You will automatically have access to all teaching materials (including lecture notes) in advance. We provide 25% extra time in examinations for dyslexic students and will arrange the use of word processors or other adjustments as appropriate on an individual basis. We also have a dyslexia tutor available to help you develop your learning skills.

We have text-to-speech and screen magnifying software available in the Library together with a document magnifier. All our material is produced to accessibility standards and published electronically on our intranet in a form easily customisable for your preferences.

Most of the important parts of the campus are wheelchair accessible, and we will arrange to schedule all classes involving students with mobility impairments to the ground floor or in the Emrys Jones building which has a lift. There are several wheelchair accessible bedrooms.

We ask that you discuss your dyslexia or other disability with our experienced and very knowledgeable Disability Officer, Dr John Conway, (email john.conway@rau.ac.uk) when you first apply to the University so that we may ensure we have provision for your particular situation in place when you arrive as our programmes are vocational and some modules do require some physical activity or visual skills in order to complete them successfully.

UK students are strongly advised to apply for a Disabled Students' Allowance (this is free, not means tested, funding to support the extra costs caused by dyslexia or disability – for example your own copy of specialist software, computer, recording device or support worker etc) at the earliest opportunity – you can find advice and download the forms from the <u>DirectGov website</u>. Postgraduate students are entitled to a repeat DSA but you do need to apply again.

Whatever your query, do contact our Disability Officer, Dr John Conway: john.conway@rau.ac.uk or phone 01285 652531 ext 2234 for advice or guidance.