

FOI Request Reference: 86-18

Date of Response: 25/04/2018

Request

"Please can you tell me what number of Disabled Students Allowance Needs Assessments were conducted per assessment centre in the last year? Either the calendar year of 2017 or the 16/17 academic year will suffice."

Response

Please refer to the attached spreadsheet for the data that you have requested for academic year 2016/17. Please note the following caveats to the data:

- The data covers students applying for Disabled Students' Allowance ("DSA") through Student Finance England only.
- Figures of less than 10 are denoted by "*".
- The list includes Assessment Centres which are registered with the Disabled Students Allowance Quality Assurance Group ("DSA-QAG") as well as non-DSA-QAG registered centres in Scotland and Northern Ireland. For DSA-QAG registered centres, the Assessment Centre contact information can be obtained from the DSA-QAG website at: <https://www.dsa-qag.org.uk/> by using the search function on the website.
- We have where possible used the same naming convention to match the Assessment Centre name of the DSA-QAG website.
- We do not hold details of the number of assessments completed by individual Assessment Centres' records, only those where we have a record when the needs assessment was carried out/have received the needs assessment report/have reviewed the report/issued DSA support entitlement confirmation to the student. Assessments may have been therefore carried out, but have not been included in our results where the dates do not fall within the criteria applied to collate the data.
- The data has been collated from local databases, which are populated manually. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy of the data, it may not be 100% accurate.
- Needs Assessment Centres can, on the front of a Needs Assessment Report, confirm only their main address, however the assessment may have been conducted at one of their other facilities. We only capture the main address on our databases. For example assessments recorded under ATOP LTD, may have been carried out at one of ATOP's other centres.
- Outreach centres are recorded under the associated main Assessment Centre.
- Please note that instances where no Assessment Centre name has been entered on our local databases have been removed from the results.

- Students who are eligible to receive DSA choose which Needs Assessment Centre to attend, not SLC.