

Studying with a disability

Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences considers it to be important that all students can study under the best possible circumstances by providing them with what they need. This is why all study programmes offer options for individual adjustments in education, support or tests. Thus, a disability or the need for care or support does not have to impede you during your studies.

What is a disability?

A disability is a collective term for chronic illnesses, psychological and physical complaints, dyslexia and dyscalculia. Examples include diabetes, rheumatism, poor vision, depression, AD(H)D and autism. Disabilities do not always lead to study impediments. However, if they do, solutions will have to be found in terms of facilities and adjustments. The objective is that you are not hindered by your disability during your studies.

Notifying us of your disability

You should request a meeting with the student dean before you start your study programme – or as soon as possible once you have started. When registering for the study programme, you can put a tick in the study link in the following section: [Are there circumstances, e.g. a disability \(dyslexia, an autism spectrum disorder, hearing impairment, et cetera.\) or do you do top-class sports, for which Van Hall Larenstein should arrange additional facilities and/or for which you require additional support? A dean will contact you as soon as possible in this case.](#)

At the meeting – to which you may bring a parent, the care coordinator or another attendant, you will discuss the impediments you anticipate in your studies as well as the support HVHL can offer you here – we will therefore discuss what you require. Please bring important, relevant documents regarding your circumstances. Examples include a medical statement from your GP, treating physician or psychologist/psychiatrist. This statement is required when we arrange facilities and support in your study programme. If you develop a disability and/or support requirement during your studies, you can discuss this with your student dean too.

Recording agreements (study contract)

Agreements regarding facilities and appropriate support in your studies are recorded in a study contract. This specifies who arranges what, and what you should do yourself as a student. Please notify us in good time of any changes in your situation, so that your study contract can be amended.

Support during your studies

During your studies, you will be supported by HVHL in order to minimise any study delay. This support is offered by your study mentor, and additional support will be offered by the student dean and a study mate. It may sometimes be necessary to seek additional specialist support outside HVHL.

Adjustments during your studies

Adjustments can be made, or suitable support can be offered, in all our study programmes. Please find below a number of examples of solutions we offer:

- **In case of dyslexia:** additional time to complete a test, enlarged typeface and the use of Kurzweil.
- **In the event of chronic illness:** a reduced attendance requirement. You will make arrangements with fellow group members with regard to taking notes, or with your lecturer about the study material discussed. You also have the option to complete certain sections of a study year at a later time.
- **In the event of ADHD and autism:** you can receive more support from your study mentor or additional support from a study mate. You can also participate in the autism group. This dedicated group for students with autism meets on a weekly basis.
- **Internship:** are you unable to do a full internship due to chronic illness? A reduction in the number of hours is possible in consultation with your internship supervisor and dean. In most cases, this will be offset by a longer internship period.
- **Hospital and therapy:** do you frequently have to visit the hospital for examinations, or are you participating in therapy one day a week? Adjustments will be made, depending on the number of hours you will miss. Examples include attending lessons in a different group or a reduced attendance requirement.

Insofar as a structural facility is concerned, this can be specified in a study contract in consultation with the dean.

Applying for a financial contribution

There are various arrangements that make studying for people with a disability a little easier. Examples include an individual study allowance from the municipality where you study.

In addition, there are other options:

- When you receive a Dutch study grant from DUO, there are various regulations for students with a performance grant and, to a limited degree, for students who first received a study grant as of September 2015.
- Erasmus grant: additional budget for an internship abroad.