

Skills Disability Support

A guide for Registered Training Organisations

Skills Disability Support

Skills Disability Support (SDS) is a specialised support initiative to increase participation in, and outcomes from, accredited training for students with disability.

SDS is administered by the Queensland Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT).

Funding of \$700,000 is provided annually to deliver the SDS program.

What is disability support?

Disability support are services that directly lessen the impact of a person's disability on their capacity to:

- learn effectively in the vocational education and training (VET) environment
- achieve a vocational outcome as a pathway to employment
- Disability support is specifically tailored to the student's individual circumstances and abilities. It is used as reasonable adjustment under the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* to assist students to complete their vocational qualification or course.

What are the objectives?

The aim of SDS is to:

- facilitate specialised subsidised support so students with disability can participate in VET on the same basis as students without disability
- assist VET providers to meet a student's specialised support needs
- encourage effective use of technology.

How much subsidised support is available?

SDS services are based on individual need. The level of service is dependent on the subsidised assistance required, technology available in stock and the reasonableness of the request.

Up to \$10,000 (GST Exclusive) will be available for eligible approved applicants.

Who can apply?

Queensland Skills Assure Suppliers (SAS) are eligible to apply for SDS. They must be based in and deliver training in Queensland.

Who can be supported?

Within an annual program budget of \$700,000, SDS will support students who:

- have an identified disability
- are 15 years or over, and no longer at school
- are undertaking DESBT subsidised training and are not school students, and
- are not eligible to receive the same resources through other initiatives

What services are supported?

Specialised support services may include Disability Support workers and coaches, Auslan interpreters, mentors, notetakers and scribes. The SAS is responsible for organising and managing the support.

Specialised technology is available for loan, and includes assistive software, magnification aids and specialised computer accessories.

More information

Visit [Skills Disability Support](https://desbt.qld.gov.au) at desbt.qld.gov.au or phone 1300 369 935.

