



**Inklusion**

**Leaflet  
barrier-  
free studies**

**Studying with impairments  
or chronic illness?**

## The Service Office Inclusive University of Siegen introduces itself

People with disabilities should have access to general higher education and lifelong learning without discrimination and on an equal footing with others, as well as equal opportunities in professional life. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities commits the signatory states to this. The concept of inclusion is defined in such a way that people with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses are not expected to adapt, but that environmental barriers are removed to enable them to participate in society on an equal and self-determined basis.

The University of Siegen also considers it an important task to reduce disadvantages for the disabled and chronically ill. Important keywords here are: [accessibility](#), [equal opportunities](#) and [non-discrimination](#).

In order to realise a barrier-free design of structures, procedures and offers, a [service office Inclusive University of Siegen](#) was established at the University of Siegen.

On the homepage of the service office you will find further information about inclusion at the University of Siegen as well as current event information and much more.

<http://inklusive.uni-siegen.de/buero/>

This diversity of students with disabilities results in a diversity of disability-related demands on studying and teaching, universities and student unions, whereby structural barriers are only one issue among many, as communicative, organizational and structural barriers also have a strong impact on making studying more difficult.

## What counts as disabilities and chronic illnesses?

1. mobility and movement impairments.
2. visual impairment
3. hearing impairment
4. speech/language impairment
5. chronic-somatic illnesses (e.g. allergies, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, epilepsy, metabolic diseases, MS, rheumatism, Morbus Chron's disease, tumour diseases)
6. chronic mental illnesses
7. dyslexia / dyscalculia
8. autism spectrum disorders
9. other chronic impairments

Only about one third of students with impairments are directly noticeable to third parties; almost two thirds of disabilities remain unnoticed if students do not draw attention to them themselves!

A prerequisite for effective support, however, is that the teachers are aware of the limitations and the associated difficulties of the disabled or chronically ill students. However, a large proportion of them have difficulties in addressing their own health problems at an early stage and asking for appropriate support.

**!! Therefore, get in touch with the teachers at the beginning of the semester to talk to them in private and find appropriate ways of studying.**

### **I have a disability or chronic illness - How do I get support?**

Depending on the type and extent of the physical or mental impairment, completely different assistance and support services may be required, which are individually coordinated.

The representative for students with disabilities and chronic illnesses supports severely disabled or chronically ill students in preparing for their studies, in entering their studies, during their studies and in examination matters. You can discuss problems with the Disability Officer when choosing a course of study, during the course of study or when completing your studies and work with her to find solutions.

**Disabled and/or chronically ill students can obtain information here on study prerequisites, aids, compensation for disadvantages, career entry and all questions relating to student life.**

**!! It is advisable to contact the counselling centre for disabled or chronically ill students at an early stage in order to be able to address possible study problems in good time and to find realistic ways into the degree program, through the degree program and to start a career.**

**In general, personal information is always handled with absolute confidentiality!**



**What possibilities are there for support?**

- Barrier-free lecture halls and seminar rooms, room exchange if required
- Provision of barrier-free workplaces for students
- Use of technical aids
- Timely announcement of literature and presentation topics

- Supporting teaching content through structured formatting of digital media
- Networking with fellow students and departments
- Placement of student inclusion tutors and assistants
- Placement of subject tutors within the framework of support for graduates
- Entitlement to a disabled parking space
- **Request for compensation for disadvantages** and Hardship application

**How are disadvantages compensated?**



Students with impairments meet various obstacles in the course of their studies. These obstacles need to be compensated in order to allow for an equal participation in their choice of study program.

**Compensation for disadvantages** is a preventive instrument to enable students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses to enjoy equal opportunities in their studies and examinations and to avoid disadvantages.

It is important to know that the individual situation of the applicant is taken into account when providing appropriate compensation for disadvantages. The subject requirements are equivalent; the disadvantage compensation should not represent a reduction in the subject requirements or a preferential treatment compared to non-disabled or chronically ill students.

**Conceivable forms of modification depending on the impact of the disability/chronic illness:**

- Provision of accessible teaching and examination materials
- Extension of examination time, e.g. homework or final papers
- Modification of theoretical and practical performance depending on the course of study (presentation vs. term paper, written vs. oral examination, term paper vs. written exam)
- Use of technical aids or provision of communication aids

## How can I get compensation for disadvantages?

- Needs assessment (individual and appropriate)
- Consultation with the representative for students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses, if necessary together with the study (subject) advisor.
- Evidence such as a (specialist) doctor's certificate (required), disabled person's ID card (optional).
- Statement by the representative for students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses in accordance with §62b HZG.
- Application for appropriate disadvantage compensation in individual cases for the study and/or examination performance (study or examination modification) to the Examinations Office.

## Help for students

Students can obtain information about possible assistance from the representative for students with disabilities and chronic illnesses.

She will support your application for compensation for disadvantages, find tutors and work with you individually on further assistance in your studies.

## For further information:

Dr. Sonja Weber-Menges  
**Representative for students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses**  
Universität Siegen,  
Adolf-Reichwein-Str. 2,  
57068 Siegen



Room: AR-D 4105  
Mail to: [behindertenberatung@uni-siegen.de](mailto:behindertenberatung@uni-siegen.de)

Phone: 0271-740 4233  
Mobile: 0175-600 4044  
Office hours:  
Tuesday: 11am-15pm  
Thursday: 11am-15pm  
Telephone counselling and further appointments by arrangement

## Further assistance for students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses:

### Social Department of the AStA

Room: AR-H 106  
Phone: 0271/740-4601  
Mail to: [sozref@asta.uni-siegen.de](mailto:sozref@asta.uni-siegen.de)



### Psychological counselling

Dipl.-Psych. Emine Selvi  
Room: AR-SSC 0.19

Psychologin Anna Elisabeth Schäfer (M.Sc)  
Room: AR-SSC 0.1800

Phone: +49 (0) 271 740 -4300  
Mail to: [psychologische-beratung@zv.uni-siegen.de](mailto:psychologische-beratung@zv.uni-siegen.de)

**Students whose life situation poses an additional special hardship (in addition to disability and/or chronic illness, this also applies to students who act as carers for relatives, as well as students with children and international students) also receive assistance from other appropriate contact points.**

**You can find an overview of all contact points in the Digital Diversity-Guide**

([https://diversity.uni-siegen.de/diversity\\_guide/?lang=de](https://diversity.uni-siegen.de/diversity_guide/?lang=de))

