

## **Newsletter for academic student advisors – Special Needs Support (SPS)**

In this December edition of the newsletter, we will focus on a great offer for students who suffer from physical, psychological, or neurological challenges or who struggle with dyslexia or dyscalculia – namely SPS or Special Needs Support, as it is officially called. In this newsletter, you can learn more about:

- What SPS is
- How you can help students with the SPS offer
- And contact information for SPS

### **What is SPS:**

SPS stands for Special Needs Support and aims to address some of the challenges a disability can present, allowing one to pursue an education on equal footing with other students who do not have a disability.

The support provided to each student is highly individualized, depending on the specific disability. It can range from physical (hardware and software) aids to sessions with a reading and writing tutor and/or an SPS advisor.

Approval of support requires that the student has documentation of their disability, but support is not guaranteed even if the disability is documented.

The processing of applications can sometimes take a while, so the sooner the student applies, the better.

### **Guidance Advice:**

For some, it can be sensitive to talk about their own psychological or neurological challenges. Therefore, we suggest waiting for the advised student to bring it up themselves during the guidance session, even if you suspect that this might be the issue.

If the student you are speaking with brings up their own psychological or neurological challenges in the conversation, it is always a good idea to check whether they are already receiving SPS support. If they are not, you can suggest SPS as an option.

The same applies when students bring up their dyslexia in the conversation.

If you find out that the student could benefit from SPS support or wants to learn more about it, it might be a good idea to help them get in touch with the SPS administration. You can do this, for example, by showing them the website or, if you are on the Odense campus, by accompanying them to the SPS administration.

### **Contact Information for SPS:**

As a student, you can contact the SPS administration via SPOC.

As an employee, you can write to [sps@sdu.dk](mailto:sps@sdu.dk). They can also be reached by phone at 6550 1800.

Remember, you can read much more about SPS and the services they offer on the website [www.mitsdu.dk/en/sps](http://www.mitsdu.dk/en/sps).

This is also the last newsletter of the year. Next semester, the newsletter will take an editorial break, so there will be no newsletters in the upcoming semester. If you have good ideas for content in the newsletter, you are welcome to send them to [vejledning@sdu.dk](mailto:vejledning@sdu.dk). And remember, you can always find inspiration for your guidance practice in our archive of newsletters, which you can find [here](#).