

LEARNING SUPPORT FOR DISABLED STUDENTS UNDERTAKING FIELDWORK AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

To: Heads of Departments and Fieldwork Co-ordinators in HEIs in the UK

We are interested in your experience of providing learning support for disabled undergraduate students undertaking tutor-led and independent fieldwork and related activities, such as preparatory and follow-up sessions, in geography, earth and environmental sciences/studies. Please add a separate sheet if there is insufficient space to respond to a particular question.

Section 1: Fieldwork in your degree programme(s)

- 1 Please indicate in the table below, which of these subjects your response applies to, the approximate number of students registered for a single, major or joint degree in these subjects in 1999/2000, and the approximate number of these students who will undertake a compulsory tutor-led fieldcourse as part of their degree programme.

Subjects	Please tick applicable subject(s)	Approx. number of students registered for a single, major or joint degree in 1999/2000 (all years)	Approx. number of students undertaking a compulsory fieldcourse as part of their degree
Earth Sciences			
Environmental Sciences / Studies			
Geography			

Section 2: Students with disabilities

- 2 Approximately how many of the students currently registered on your degree programme(s) (specified in question 1) are you aware have the following disabilities:

	Approx. number of students
Mobility problems	
Blind or visually impaired	
Deaf or hearing impaired	
Mental health difficulties	
Hidden disabilities (e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, asthma)	
Dyslexia	
Multiple disabilities	

- 3 Where you have had experience of a student(s), with any of the disabilities listed in question 2, undertaking *tutor-led* fieldwork and related activities, please give brief details of the learning support you have provided (for example, any of the following):
- Discussion of student's needs
 - Travel arrangements
 - Location
 - Student's programme of work
 - Teaching methods
 - Teaching materials and equipment
 - Preparatory and follow-up sessions
 - Assessment
 - Groupwork requirements
 - Student peer support
 - Staffing
 - Accommodation during residential trip
 - Financial support / additional resources
 - Others (please specify)

Mobility problems

Blind or visually impaired

Deaf or hard of hearing

Mental health difficulties

Hidden disabilities (eg epilepsy, diabetes, asthma)

Dyslexia

Multiple disabilities

- 4 Are you aware of any disabled students who have decided not to take your degree programme, or who have changed programmes, because of the perceived difficulties of undertaking fieldwork and related activities?

• Yes No Don't Know

If yes, please give brief details.

- 5 Are you aware of any cases where a fieldwork requirement has been:
- waived for a disabled student? Yes [] No [] Don't know []
 - modified for a disabled student? Yes [] No [] Don't know []
- If yes to either of the above, please give brief details including alternative arrangements.

6 Please indicate the nature of the issues you have experienced with disabled students undertaking independent fieldwork (e.g. contributing towards a student project or dissertation) which are additional to those you have identified above. Please give specific examples.

Section 3: Staff training and policy

7 Approximately how many of the academic staff in your subject have had disability equality training? Please tick appropriate boxes.

	Approximate number of academic staff in subject who have undertaken training				
	None	Few	Some	Many	All
General disability					
Mobility problems					
Blind or visually impaired					
Deaf or hearing impaired					
Mental health difficulties					
Hidden disabilities (e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, asthma)					
Dyslexia					

8 Are fieldwork and related activities in your degree programme affected by any written policy or guidelines relating to disabled students?

- Yes [] No []

If yes, is this (please tick all boxes that apply):

an institution policy []

a faculty policy []

a department policy []

We would be very grateful if you would please send us a copy of the section(s) relating to disabled students undertaking fieldwork and related activities.

Section 4: Other issues

- 9 Are there any other issues affecting the provision of learning support for disabled students undertaking fieldwork and related activities that you have experience of, or are of concern to you, your colleagues or your students? If so, please provide brief details.

Is there any other person in your department or institution who might be able to help us with our survey / or who has experience of, or responsibility for disabled students? If so please give their name and contact details:

Name:

Position:

Telephone number:

Email address:

Your name:

Capacity in which you are replying:

Date:

Telephone number:

Email address:

Institution:

Thank you very much for the time you have taken completing this survey. Your response will be very useful in helping us to identify current practices in providing learning support for disabled students undertaking fieldwork and related activities. We will not identify your institution in the report without your permission. The survey report will be put on the Geography Discipline Network (GDN) Web pages (<http://www.chelt.ac.uk/gdn>).

Please return the completed form by 15th March 2000, using the FREEPOST envelope provided.

If you have any queries please ring or email Dr Tim Hall on: 01242 532836; thall@chelt.ac.uk