

EMILY (24)

Cerebral palsy, living independently

- Graduated from high school and working on a college degree
- Lives in a small independent living facility
- Works part-time at a local community center

“The ones I like seem to have everything in the right place.”

Ability

Cerebral palsy, difficult to use hands and has some difficulty speaking clearly; uses a motorized wheel chair

Aptitude

Uses the computer well, with the right input device; good at finding efficient search terms

Attitude

Wants to do everything for herself; can be impatient

Assistive Technology

Augmented & Alternative Communication (AAC) with speech generator, iPad, scooter with joystick control

“When I go online, I just want to do things like everyone else.”

“The online form didn’t say anything about it. The whole trip was a waste.”

800,000 children and adults in the U.S. have one of the forms of cerebral palsy.

People with disabilities are often unemployed or underemployed. Among all U.S. working age (18–64) people with disabilities, only 21% are employed full- or part-time.