

Cerebral Palsy Fact Sheet

Cerebral Palsy:

- applies to a number of disorders of the developing brain affecting body movement, posture and muscle coordination.
- is caused by damage to one or more specific areas of the brain, usually occurring during fetal development; before, during, or shortly after birth; during infancy; or early childhood.
- is not progressive
- effects between 1.5-2.0 million children and adults in the United States

Potential Deficit Areas:

- Muscle tightness or spasticity
- Problems with gait, coordination and mobility
- Difficulty with swallowing and breathing
- Impairment of sight, hearing or speech
- Abnormal sensation and perception
- Mental Retardation
- Learning disabilities
- Impaired judgment, processing and reaction time
- Seizures



Impact on Driving/Transportation:

- A modified vehicle will become necessary for children with cerebral palsy who use a wheelchair as they become too big for their parents and/or caregivers to transfer them to the OEM seat and as their chair becomes too heavy to lift.
- As the individual reaches the age to drive, a driving evaluation will be needed to determine if they have the cognitive, visual, perceptual and physical ability to learn to drive safely. (www.aded.net)
- This driving evaluation will determine if the individual will be able to drive or not and what if any type(s), of driving equipment they will need.

Possible Vehicle Equipment Needs:

- Wheelchair stowage lift and/or transfer seat
- Lowered floor minivan or full size van with a lift
- Adaptive driving equipment specifically recommended for their individual physical abilities and custom fit by a certified technician, equipment will vary widely person to person

ABOUT RIDE-AWAY:

Ride-Away is America's largest provider of modified vehicles and adaptive equipment for people with disabilities. Ride-Away products are used by individuals with minor to profound disabilities requiring additional assistance while traveling and range from hand controls and lifts to raised door and lowered floor vehicle modifications. Founded in 1986, Ride-Away's 11 East Coast locations are committed to offering a broad selection of specialized vehicles and services to meet the needs of every customer. All of Ride-Away's locations are also QAP (Quality Assurance Program) certified through the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association (NMEDA), resulting in Ride-Away being held to the highest standards in the industry. For more information, call (888)-RIDE-AWAY or visit our website at www.Ride-Away.com.