



Success Story



Walker Murphy



OCCUPATION/JOB TITLE:
Accountant

VR COUNSELOR: Danielle Lambert

UCAT ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SPECIALISTS:
Kent Remund and Jay Wheeler

VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational Counseling and Guidance
- Individualized Plan for Employment
- Tuition Assistance
- Assistive Technology
- Transportation Assistance

When Walker Murphy applied for Vocational Rehabilitation services in March 2023, he had a clear goal: to build a meaningful career in accounting. Murphy has Duchenne muscular dystrophy, which affects his mobility. He faced barriers as he completed his education and prepared to commute independently to work.

Working with his VR counselor, Danielle Lambert of the Provo District, Murphy developed an individualized Plan for Employment. VR supported him as he completed his master's degree in accountancy at Brigham Young University and explored assistive technology that could increase his independence.

After graduating from BYU in 2024, Murphy faced another significant barrier. He did not have a viable way to commute independently to and from work. VR partnered with the Utah Center for Assistive Technology to identify a customized transportation solution. Jay Wheeler, an assistive technology

specialist, and Kent Remund, UCAT director, recommended specialized driving training using joystick and hand-control technology.

Murphy successfully completed the training and assessment process while UCAT worked to identify a vehicle that could be modified to meet his needs. VR then purchased a modified Chevrolet Traverse, giving Murphy a reliable way to commute independently to work.

Murphy accepted a full-time position as a staff accountant with Awardco in Lindon, with competitive pay and benefits. Throughout the VR process, he remained actively involved in each step and committed to achieving his employment goal.

"The car has been great!" Murphy said. "I'm getting more and more comfortable with the equipment. I've been driving to and from work, and it has been great to work in person with my team more consistently. Lots of people at work have been super excited to see all the equipment and modifications!"