

Specially Adapted Housing Program

Overview

The Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) program offers grants to Servicemembers and Veterans with certain severe service-connected disabilities. The grants assist with building, remodeling or purchasing an adapted home.

What is a Specially Adapted Housing Grant?

The Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant helps disabled Veterans and Servicemembers enjoy barrier-free living. One example is a wheelchair accessible home. This can provide independent living that might not otherwise be possible.

The current maximum grant amount is \$85,645. It must be used for the purpose of constructing or modifying a home to meet adaptive needs. The maximum grant amount adjusts annually, so please visit the website

https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/adaptedhousing.asp.

Veterans and Service members with specific service-connected disabilities may be eligible. You must be entitled to disability compensation due to:

- Loss or loss of use of both legs
 - Unable to move around without the aid of braces, crutches, canes or a wheelchair
- Blindness in both eyes, plus loss or loss of use of one leg
- Loss of loss of use of one leg, and:
 - Residuals of organic disease or injury OR
 - Loss or loss of use of one arm, affecting balance and ability to move without aid
- Loss or loss of use of both arms at or above the elbows

• Severe burn injury

What is a Special Housing Adaptation Grant?

The Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) grant can be used to increase your mobility throughout your residence. The current maximum grant amount is \$17,130. The maximum grant amount adjusts annually, so please visit the website https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/adaptedhousing.asp.

Veterans and Service members with specific service-connected disabilities may be eligible. You must be entitled to disability compensation due to one of the following:

- Blindness in both eyes with 20/200 visual acuity or less in the better eye with use of a corrective lens
- Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or arms below the elbow
- Severe burn injury

What is a Temporary Residence Assistance Grant?

You can receive a temporary SAH/SHA grant to adapt the home of a family member. The maximum amount available to adapt a family member's home for the SAH grant is \$37,597 and for the SHA grant is \$6,713. The maximum grant amounts adjust annually, so please visit the website

https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/adaptedhousing.asp.

What is a Home Improvements and Structural Alterations Grant?

A Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) grant provides assistance for any home improvement necessary for treatment or disability access. Eligible Veterans and Service members can receive a HISA grant, as well as either a SAH or SHA grant. This program is available for both Veterans with service-connected disabilities and nonservice-connected disabilities:

- Service-connected disabilities: home improvement benefits up to \$6,800
- Non-service-connected disabilities: home improvement benefits up to \$2,000

Learn more about HISA grants at <u>http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/HISA2.asp</u>.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) - Housing Adaptation Assistance

VR&E may provide home adaptations to individuals who are not currently able to work because of the effects of their service-connected disabilities, or who require adaptations to achieve a vocational goal. The benefits are limited to those required to improve independence at home and/or in the community.

• Home adaptations up to \$85,645 may be provided as part of an approved rehabilitation plan.

Please visit <u>www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/independent_living.asp</u> to learn more about VR&E home adaptation grants and apply for VR&E benefits, please visit <u>www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab.asp</u>.