

# HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS PROGRAM (HISA)

Under the Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) program, Veterans with service-connected and non-service-connected disabilities may receive assistance for any home improvement necessary for the continuation of treatment, disability access to the home and access to essential bathroom and kitchen facilities.

A HISA grant is available to Veterans who receive a medical determination indicating that improvements and structural alterations are necessary or appropriate for the effective and economical treatment of a disability.

A Veteran may receive both a HISA grant and either a Special Home Adaptation (SHA) grant or a Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant.

### Veterans can use HISA to pay for:

- Allowing entrance or exit from the Veteran's home
- Improving access for use of the bathroom and kitchen
- Improving access to kitchen and bathroom counters
- Handrails
- Lowered electrical outlets and switches
- Improving paths or driveways
- Improving plumbing/electrical work for dialysis patients

# Veterans cannot use HISA to pay for:

- Walkways to exterior buildings
- Widening of driveways (in excess of 7 ft x 6 ft area)
- · Spa, hot tub or Jacuzzi
- Exterior decking (in excess of 8 ft x 8 ft)

### **HISA Grant Eligibility**

The HISA program is available for both service-connected Veterans and non-service-connected Veterans.

- A home improvement lifetime benefit up to
   \*\$6,800 may be provided for a:
- ° Service-connected condition
- Non-service-connected condition of a Veteran rated 50 percent or more service-connected
- A home improvement lifetime benefit up to •2,000 may be provided to all other Veterans registered in the VA health care system

## **Applying for a HISA Grant**

In order to receive a HISA grant, the Veteran must first have a prescription from a VA or fee-basis physician. This must include:

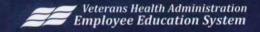
- · Specific items required
- · The diagnosis with medical justification
- The Veteran's name, address, SSN and phone number(s)

### To apply, the Veteran must first provide:

- A completed VA Form 10-0103, Veterans Application For Assistance In Acquiring Home Improvement and Structural Alternations
- \* If a leased or rented property, written permission from the owner
- Quotes from at least 3 contractors to include:
- \* The contractor's name, address, telephone number and Federal tax ID number or social security number
- ° The Veteran's name, address and telephone number
- ° Plans and drawings
- An itemized list of estimated materials, cost and labor cost
- All permits required (it is the contractor's responsibility to obtain these)
- ° A picture of the work site prior to construction







www.prosthetics.va.gov/HISA 2. asp

<sup>\*</sup>Subject to change