FORWARD TOGETHER

Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service

www.prosthetics.va.gov

HISA
Home Improvement and Structural Alteration

Employee Education System
HOME IMPROVEMENT AND STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS PROGRAM (HISA)

What is HISA
Under the Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) program, Veterans with service-connected disabilities or Veterans with nonservice-connected disabilities may receive assistance for any home improvement necessary for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities.

A HISA grant is available to Veterans who have received a medical determination indicating that improvements and structural alterations are necessary or appropriate for the effective and economical treatment of his/her disability. A Veteran may receive both a HISA grant and either a Special Home Adaptation (SHA) grant or a Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant.

What HISA WILL Pay For
- Allowing entrance or exit from Veterans home
- Improving access for use of essential lavatory and sanitary facilities
- Improving access to kitchen and bathroom counters
- Handrails
- Lowered Electrical outlets and switches
- Improving paths or driveways
- Improving plumbing/electrical work for dialysis patients

What HISA WILL NOT Pay For
- Walkways to exterior buildings
- Widening of driveways (in excess of a 7ft x 6ft area)
- Spa, hot tub or Jacuzzi
- Exterior decking (in excess of 8ft x 8ft)

Limits on HISA Grants
The HISA program is available for both service-connected Veterans and nonservice-connected Veterans.
- Home improvement benefits up to $4,100 may be provided to service-connected Veterans.
- Home improvement benefits up to $1,200 may be provided to nonservice-connected Veterans.

*Subject to change

Applying for a HISA Grant
In order to receive an 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 Veterans’ 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 Alterations
- If a leased or rented property, written permission from the owner
- Quotes from at least 3 licensed contractors (if required by state law), to include:
  - The contractors name, address, telephone and Federal tax ID number or social security number
  - The Veterans name, address and telephone number.
  - Plans and drawings
  - An itemized list of estimated materials, cost and labor cost.
  - All permits required (it is the contractors responsibility to obtain these)
  - A picture of the work site prior to construction