

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR  
APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR  
SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT  
(2900-0132)  
VA FORM 26-4555**

**Summary of Changes from Previously Approved Collection:**

- The estimated respondent burden has increased to account for documentation requirements associated with construction and adaptation activities, which increased the number of participating respondents from 7,000 to 11,200 and, in turn, increased the total annual burden hours.
- VA Form 26-4555 has been revised to clarify its purpose and to capture verification and supporting documents required.
- 1 public comment was received during the 60-Day comment period.

**A. Justification**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection of information.**

VA administers grants for Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) and Special Housing Adaptations (SHA) to help Veterans and Service members (hereafter referred to as "Veterans") with a service-connected disability. Under Title 38, U.S.C., chapter 21, VA Form 26-4555 is necessary for Veterans to submit an application to determine their eligibility for SAH and SHA grants.

Once determined eligible, Veterans must submit supporting documentation and forms to VA for review to finalize their SAH or SHA grant award. Veterans must work with residential construction professionals, such as architects, designers, building contractors, and construction trade specialists to develop the necessary adaptation plans and features to their homes. Under C.F.R. §36.4408, VA requires proof of costs and supporting documentation, as well as plans and specifications for proposed adaptation, to ensure they meet minimum property and design requirements.

**2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purposes the information is to be used; indicate actual use the agency has made of the information received from current collection.**

VA Form 26-4555 is used to gather the necessary information to determine Veteran eligibility for the SAH or SHA grant. VA Form 26-4555 is being revised to provide greater clarity regarding the information collected from the Veterans and construction professionals. This information is necessary for both to establish eligibility SAH or SHA grant and to support the review and approval of proposed residential construction. The Veteran will complete VA Form 26-4555 and submit it to the nearest VA Regional Loan Center (RLC), or Veterans Service Center (VSC). If the RLC receives the application, the application is input into the RLC system of record establishing a trackable file, and then the application is provided to the VSC. VSC will establish a claim for disability

rating, rate the claim, and then update the Veteran's rating record and notify the RLC system of record. The RLC will update the file and send the appropriate form letter to the Veteran notifying him or her of basic eligibility for the SAH or SHA benefit. The initial interview with the Veteran will be held within 30 business days to provide an overview of the SAH or SHA grants and begin collecting documents needed to process and approve the grant.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

Veterans have the option to submit VA Form 26-4555 electronically through the VA.Gov website at <https://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/disability-housing-grants/apply-for-grant-form-26-4555/introduction>. However, the electronic format requires additional information to be obtained from the Veteran. This information is required when the Veteran has no prior VA benefit claim established and is collected to facilitate processing a claim for SAH benefits using VA Form 21-526EZ, Notice of Veteran/Service Member of Evidence Necessary to substantiate a Claim for Veterans Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits. Since VA may request additional information from the Veteran as needed during examination of the Veteran record, that same information is not collected on VA Form 26-4555. VA Form 26-4555 is also available through the One VA forms website at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms> in a fillable electronic format.

The information is gathered either via a secure online portal, by secure email, or in hardcopy form to the VA LGY staff from Veterans (or their representative), residential construction professionals, and authorized representatives. VA uses the required information to ensure that 38 U.S.C. Chapter 21 grants deliver suitable housing units with special fixtures and adaptations made necessary by the nature of the individual Veteran's disability. Documents such as construction exhibits, cost and payment proposals, and requests for either inclusion or exclusion of certain features as well as for verification of ownership. This information is used by VA LGY staff to ensure compliance with the given statute and regulations. Respondents include residential building professionals, grantee-Veterans or their appointed representatives, medical clinicians, and local authorities. The information collected is unique to the individual grantee-Veterans and their residence and includes such data as structural, mechanical, and electrical details of the planned adaptations, proof of property ownership e.g. deeds, property tax statements, mortgage statements, loan closing disclosures or other associated documents depending on the manner of ownership.

OMB Control No. 2900-0515 authorizes the collection and maintenance of loan records such as deeds, mortgage statements, property tax records, and closing disclosures. OMB Control No. 2900-0521 supports the collection of financial disbursement records and verification of tax and escrow data. OMB Control No. 2900-0846 authorizes the collection of financial information to facilitate the setup and maintenance of vendor

payments for VA financial transactions. These additional authorities ensure comprehensive collection and compliance under statute and regulation. Documents such as construction exhibits, cost and payment proposals, and requests for either inclusion or exclusion of certain features as well as for verification of ownership. This information is used by VA LGY staff to ensure compliance with the given statute and regulations. Respondents include residential building professionals, grantee-Veterans or their appointed representatives, medical clinicians, and local authorities. The information collected is unique to the individual grantee-Veterans and their residence and includes such data as structural, mechanical, and electrical details of the planned adaptations, proof of property ownership e.g. deeds, property tax statements, mortgage statements, loan closing disclosures or other associated documents depending on the manner of ownership.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

No duplication of information is involved. The electronic form solicits personal information and documents from the Veteran that would not be available in another agency's records. To the extent VA already has access to certain specific information pertaining to an individual applicant, VA.Gov will pre-populate those specific items and it will not be necessary for an applicant to re-submit such information. However, if the information on record with VA or the Department of Defense (DoD) is incorrect or incomplete, individual applicants will need to provide certain specific information necessary to determine eligibility for SAH benefits.

**5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

Small business organizations are not involved.

**6. Describe the consequences to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Frequency is generally one-time per applicant. This information will be collected on an "as needed" basis. To the extent VA already has access to certain specific information pertaining to an individual applicant, VA.Gov will pre-populate those specific items and it will not be necessary for an applicant to re-submit such information. This information is collected when an eligible Veteran elects to use their adapted housing benefit. Application and commencing the process is at their discretion. Collections are necessary to remain compliant with statute and regulations. Without complete responses to the collections, VA would be unable to administer the SAH program in compliance with Title 38 U.S.C. chapter 21 and C.F.R. §36.4406 - 36.4408. Additionally, by not collecting this information, VA would face consequences by failing to meet its statutory obligation to administer the program.

However, if the information on record with VA or DoD is incorrect or incomplete, individual applicants will need to provide certain specific information necessary to determine eligibility for SAH benefits.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted more often than quarterly or require respondents to prepare written responses to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it; submit more than an original and two copies of any document; retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years; in connection with a statistical survey that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study and require the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB.**

There are no special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.6.

**8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the sponsor's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the sponsor in responses to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

A 60-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Monday, May 4, 2026. The 60-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN 24034.

1 comment was received during the 60-day comment period.

Subject: Support for Expanding Eligibility Criteria for SAH/SHA Grants to Better Address Service-Connected Mobility Impairments

Dear Department of Veterans Affairs, I am writing in response to the Agency Information Collection Activity notice regarding VA Form 26-4555 for Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) and Special Home Adaptation (SHA) grants. I strongly support the VA's ongoing efforts to administer these critical programs and appreciate the opportunity to provide public comment. The SAH and SHA grants are essential tools that enable severely disabled Veterans to live independently and with dignity in their homes. By funding necessary adaptations—such as ramps, widened doorways, accessible bathrooms, and modified kitchens—these grants directly reduce barriers, prevent secondary injuries, and lower long-term healthcare costs for the VA and taxpayers. I commend the VA for regularly updating grant amounts to reflect construction costs.

However, the current statutory and regulatory eligibility criteria are overly narrow and do not fully capture the range of service-connected disabilities that significantly impair mobility and safe home navigation. Qualifying conditions are largely limited to loss or loss of use of multiple limbs, specific blindness thresholds, certain severe burns, and limited post-9/11 single lower extremity cases. Many Veterans with other severe, service-connected mobility impairments—such as progressive neuromuscular conditions, complex spinal or hip disorders, or other functional mobility limitations (e.g., FSHD or similar conditions causing profound weakness, balance issues, fatigue, and reliance

on assistive devices)—are currently excluded despite facing equivalent daily challenges.

In my own case, I have a service-connected condition (FHSD) that has greatly impacted my mobility. While I do not have anatomical loss of limbs or qualifying burns, the functional limitations—difficulty with ambulation, transfers, stair navigation, and performing activities of daily living—create the same critical need for home adaptations as those who currently qualify. Many fellow Veterans in similar situations must choose between unsafe living conditions, institutional care, or out-of-pocket expenses that deplete their resources. I respectfully request that the VA consider advocating for or supporting modest legislative or regulatory expansions to the eligibility criteria. This could include adding a functional mobility category, such as: Service-connected disabilities resulting in the loss of use of lower extremities or overall mobility equivalent to the existing standards (e.g., requiring wheelchair, crutches, or other assistive devices for safe locomotion, or severe limitations in balance, strength, or endurance due to neuromuscular, orthopedic, or neurological conditions).

Such an expansion would align the program more closely with the intent of promoting independence for all severely disabled Veterans, not just those with specific injury types. It would also reflect advances in medical understanding of functional impairment and disability. Any changes should maintain rigorous medical documentation requirements (e.g., physician statements on functional limitations, VA disability ratings, and evidence of need) to ensure fiscal responsibility and target those with the greatest need.

Thank you for considering this important update to better serve Veterans. Expanding access modestly would have a profound, positive impact on quality of life while remaining true to the program's mission. I am happy to provide additional details about my situation or connect with VA staff if helpful.

Sincerely,  
Brian Sawyer  
California

July 8, 2026 Docket: VA-2026-VACO-0001 Notice Requesting Comments

Comments on: VA-2026-VACO-0001-0167 Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submission, and Approvals: Application in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing or Special Home Adaptation Grant: [FR Doc No: 2026 08628; OMB Control No. 2900-0132] Document: VA-2026-VACO-0001-0182 To Whom it May Concern, Thank you for your comment and for sharing your concerns regarding the eligibility criteria for the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) and Special Home Adaptation (SHA) grant programs. However, the scope of this information collection is limited to collecting the information necessary for VA Form 26-4555 to administer the SAH and SHA grant programs. It does not establish or modify statutory eligibility requirements or program policy. Matters related to Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 21 are addressed separately. Your comment will be shared with the appropriate VA program office for its awareness and consideration, as appropriate. VA appreciates your feedback. Your comment has been noted and will be included in our official record of public comments during the 30-day notice. Sincerely, Executive Director Loan Guaranty Service

A 30-Day Federal Register Notice for the collection published on Friday, July 10, 2026.  
The 30-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN 42790.

**9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

No payments or gifts to respondents have been made under this collection of information.

**10. Describe any assurance of privacy to the extent permitted by law provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

Privacy to the extent permitted by law is covered by VA System of Records Loan Guaranty Home, Condominium and Manufactured Home Loan Applicant Records Specially Adapted Housing Applicants Records, and Vendee Loan Applicant Records – VA (55VA26) is contained in the Privacy Act Issuances, 2023 Compilation.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature (Information that, with a reasonable degree of medical certainty, is likely to have a serious adverse effect on an individual's mental or physical health if revealed to him or her), such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private; include specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

There are no questions of a sensitive nature.

**12. Respondent Burden and its Labor Costs**

- a. The number of respondents is estimated:
  - Applicants: 7,000 complete Form 26-4555.
  - Veterans (or their Representative): 2,400 gathers, submit, and sign property verification, construction plans, etc.
  - Builders: 1,800 prepare, submit, and sign development plans, materials, cost, contract, etc.
  - Total = 11,200 annually
- b. Frequency of Response: Annually.
- c. Annual Burden hours:
  - Applicants: 1,167 hours (VA Form 26-4555) → 0.16 Hours (10 Minutes) per response
  - Veterans: 120 hours (Submission) → 0.05 hours (3 Minutes) per response
  - Builder: 300 hours (Submission) → 0.16 hours (10 minutes) per response
  - Total = 4,293 hours.

d. On average, the estimated time to complete each response is 23 minutes. Specifically, applicants require approximately 10 minutes to complete VA Form 26-4555, Veterans (or their representatives) require 3 minutes to provide supplemental documentation, and Builders require 10 minutes to submit required development materials.

e. The respondent population for VA Form 26-4555 are Veterans with service-connected disabilities. VBA cannot make further assumptions about the population of respondents because of the variability of factors such as the educational background and wage potential of respondents. Therefore, VBA used general wage data to estimate the respondents' costs associated with completing the information collection.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) gathers information on full-time wage and salary workers. According to the latest available BLS data, the median weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers are \$1,306.00. Assuming a forty (40) hour work week, the mean hourly wage is \$32.66.

The general wage code "00-0000 All Occupations was taken from the following website: <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>, (May 2024).

Legally, respondents may not pay a person or business for assistance in completing the information collection. Therefore, there are no expected overhead costs for completing the information collection. VBA estimates the total cost to all respondents to be \$140,209.38 (4,293 burden hours x \$32.66 per hour).

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**

This submission does not involve any recordkeeping costs.

**14. Provide estimates of annual cost to the Federal Government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operation expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.**

Estimated Costs to the Federal Government:

| Grade                                                                                                                         | Step | Burden Time (Minutes) | Hourly Rate | Cost Per Response | Total Responses | Total     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 12                                                                                                                            | 5    | 10 min (.17)          | \$55.62     | \$9.45            | 11,200          | \$105,840 |
| Overhead at 100% Salary                                                                                                       |      |                       |             |                   |                 | \$0.00    |
| <b>Overhead costs are 100% of salary and are the same as the wage listed above and the amounts are included in the total.</b> |      |                       |             |                   |                 |           |
| Processing / Analyzing Costs                                                                                                  |      |                       |             |                   |                 | \$0       |

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Printing and Production Cost | \$0       |
| Total Cost to Government     | \$105,840 |

Note: the hourly wage information above is based on the hourly 2026 General Schedule (Base) Pay ([https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/DCB\\_h.pdf](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/DCB_h.pdf)).

**15. Explain the reason for any burden hour changes since the last submission.**

The estimated respondent burden has increased to account for documentation requirements associated with construction and adaptation activities, which increased the number of participating respondents from 7,000 to 11,200 and, in turn, increased the total annual burden hours.

**16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.**

The information collection is not for publication or tabulation use.

**17. If seeking approval to omit the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

We are not seeking approval to omit the expiration date for OMB approval.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions," of OMB 83-I.**

This submission does not contain any exceptions to the certification statement.

**B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

The data collection does not employ statistical methods.