## Public Law 109-233, Veterans Housing Opportunity and Benefits Act of 2006 Section 101 - Specially Adapted Housing

On June 15, 2006, the President signed Public Law 109-233, the Veterans Housing Opportunity and Benefits Act of 2006. Section 101 of that law made several significant changes to the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) benefit.

## **Benefit Changes**

An eligible veteran or active duty service member can now use his or her benefit up to three times as long as the aggregate amount of assistance does not exceed the maximum amounts allowable for grants authorized under Title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), section 2101(a) or section 2101(b).

This benefit extends to previous grant recipients; however, they cannot obtain a subsequent grant(s) to pay for adaptations made prior to June 15, 2006, or to reduce an existing mortgage principal balance for properties acquired prior to June 15, 2006.

The Law authorizes VA to provide SAH assistance to veterans temporarily residing in a home owned by a family member up to \$14,000 for a 2101(a) grant or \$2,000 for a 2101(b) grant. This does not include active duty personnel and no temporary assistance can be provided after June 15, 2011.

The Law re-establishes VA's authority to make SAH grants to active duty service personnel but at this time, but does not authorize temporary grants to active duty service personnel.

## How to Apply

To apply for subsequent SAH grant use, submit VA Form 26-4555, Veteran's Application in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing or Special Home Adaptation Grant. For more information and specific mailing instructions, contact your <u>local VA Specially Adapted Housing agent</u>, from the attached list. Additional information may be obtained from VA Central Office on (202) 273-7355 or 273-7374. You may download a Veteran's Application for Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) or <u>Special Housing Adaptations (SHA) Grant</u>.