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[74 FR 19447, Apr. 29, 2009]

PART 59—GRANTS TO STATES FOR CONSTRUCTION OR ACQUISITION OF STATE HOMES

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AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8138.

SOURCE: 66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

§ 59.1 Purpose.

This part sets forth the mechanism for a State to obtain a grant:

(a) To construct State home facilities (or to acquire facilities to be used as State home facilities) for furnishing domiciliary or nursing home care to veterans, and

(b) To expand, remodel, or alter existing buildings for furnishing domiciliary, nursing home, adult day health, or hospital care to veterans in State homes.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.2 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

Acquisition means the purchase of a facility in which to establish a State home for the provision of domiciliary and/or nursing home care to veterans.

Adult day health care is a therapeutically-oriented outpatient day program, which provides health maintenance and rehabilitative services to participants. The program must provide individualized care delivered by an interdisciplinary health care team and support staff, with an emphasis on helping participants and their caregivers to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to manage care requirements in the home. Adult day health care is principally targeted for complex medical and/or functional needs of elderly veterans.

Construction means the construction of new domiciliary or nursing home buildings, the expansion, remodeling, or alteration of existing buildings for the provision of domiciliary, nursing home, or adult day health care, or hospital care in State homes, and the provision of initial equipment for any such buildings.

Domiciliary care means providing shelter, food, and necessary medical care on an ambulatory self-care basis (this is more than room and board). It assists eligible veterans who are suffering from a disability, disease, or defect of such a degree that incapacitates veterans from earning a living, but who are not in need of hospitalization or nursing care services. It assists in attaining physical, mental, and social well-being through special rehabilitative programs to restore residents to their highest level of functioning.

Nursing home care means the accommodation of convalescents or other persons who are not acutely ill and not in need of hospital care, but who require skilled nursing care and related medical services.

Secretary means the Secretary of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

State means each of the several states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

State representative means the official designated in accordance with State authority with responsibility for matters relating to the request for a grant under this part.

VA means the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

[66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, as amended at 75 FR 17860, Apr. 8, 2010]

§ 59.3 Federal Application Identifier.

Once VA has provided the State representative with a Federal Application Identifier Number for a project, the

number must be included on all subsequent written communications to VA from the State, or its agent, regarding a request for a grant for that project under this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.4 Decisionmakers, notifications, and additional information.

The decisionmaker for decisions required under this part will be the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, unless specified to be the Secretary or other VA official. The VA decisionmaker will provide written notice to affected States of approvals, denials, or requests for additional information under this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.5 Submissions of information and documents to VA.

All submissions of information and documents required to be presented to VA must be made, unless otherwise specified under this part, to the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care (114), VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.10 General requirements for a grant.

For a State to obtain a grant under this part and grant funds, its initial application for the grant must be approved under § 59.20, and the project must be ranked sufficiently high on the priority list for the current fiscal year so that funding is available for the project. It must meet the additional application requirements in § 59.60, and it must meet all other requirements under this part for obtaining a grant and grant funds.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.20 Initial application requirements.

(a) For a project to be considered for inclusion on the priority list in § 59.50 of this part for the next fiscal year, a State must submit to VA an original and one copy of a completed VA Form 10–0388–1 and all information, documentation, and other forms specified by VA Form 10–0388–1 (these forms are available on the internet Web sites provided in § 59.170 of this part).

(b) The Secretary, based on the information submitted for a project pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, will approve the project for inclusion on the priority list in § 59.50 of this part if the submission includes all of the information requested under paragraph (a) of this section and if the submission represents a project that, if further developed, could meet the requirements for a grant under this part.

(c) The information requested under paragraph (a) of this section should be submitted to VA by April 15, and must be received by VA by August 15, if the State wishes an application to be included on the priority list for the award of grants during the next fiscal year.

(d) If a State representative believes that VA may not award a grant to the State for a grant application during the current fiscal year and wants to ensure that VA includes the application on the priority list for the next fiscal year, the State representative must, prior to August 15 of the current fiscal year,

(1) Request VA to include the application in those recommended to the Secretary for inclusion on the priority list, and

(2) Send any updates to VA.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

[66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, as amended at 73 FR 58880, Oct. 8, 2008]

§ 59.30 Documentation.

For a State to obtain a grant and grant funds under this part, the State must submit to VA documentation that the site of the project is in reasonable proximity to a sufficient concentration and population of veterans that are 65 years of age and older and that there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the facility when complete

will be fully occupied. This documentation must be included in the initial application submitted to VA under § 59.20.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.40 Maximum number of nursing home care and domiciliary care beds for veterans by State.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a state may not request a grant for a project to construct or acquire a new state home facility, to increase the number of beds available at a state home facility, or to replace beds at a state home facility if the project would increase the total number of state home nursing home and domiciliary beds in that state beyond the maximum number designated for that state, as shown in the following chart. The provisions of 38 U.S.C. 8134 require VA to prescribe for each state the number of nursing home and domiciliary beds for which grants may be furnished (*i.e.*, the unmet need). A state's unmet need for state home nursing home and domiciliary beds is the number in the following chart for that state minus the sum of the number of nursing home and domiciliary beds in operation at state home facilities and the number of state home nursing home and domiciliary beds not yet in operation but for which a grant has either been requested or awarded under this part.

State	Maximum number of state home, nursing home & domiciliary beds based on 2020 projections
Alabama	1007
Alaska	179
Arizona	1520
Arkansas	653
California	4363
Colorado	1114
Connecticut	559
Delaware	207
District of Columbia	83
Florida	4049
Georgia	1975
Hawaii	268
Idaho	394
Illinois	1754
Indiana	1216
Iowa	578
Kansas	518
Kentucky	818
Louisiana	638
Maine	362
Maryland	1102
Massachusetts	944
Michigan	1786
Minnesota	1058
Mississippi	480
Missouri	1257
Montana	281
Nebraska	371
Nevada	649
New Hampshire	361
New Jersey	992
New Mexico	417
New York	2209
North Carolina	1900
North Dakota	137
Ohio	2143
Oklahoma	766
Oregon	907
Pennsylvania	2336
Puerto Rico	288
Rhode Island	157
South Carolina	1089
South Dakota	179
Tennessee	1311
Texas	4119
Utah	426
Vermont	142
Virginia	1903
Virgin Islands	12
Washington	1687
West Virginia	406
Wisconsin	1062
Wyoming	154
American Samoa	0
Guam	12
N. Mariana Islands	1

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): The provisions of 38 U.S.C. 8134 require that the ''un-met need'' numbers be based on a 10-year projection of demand for nursing home and domiciliary care by veterans who at such time are 65 years of age or older and who reside in that state. In determining the projected demand, VA must take into account travel distances for veterans and their families.

(b) A State may request a grant for a project that would increase the total number of State nursing home and domiciliary beds beyond the maximum number for that State, if the State submits to VA, documentation to establish a need for the exception based on travel distances of at least two hours (by land transportation or any other usual mode of transportation if land transportation is not available) between a veteran population center sufficient for the establishment of a State home and any existing State home. The determination regarding a request

for an exception will be made by the Secretary.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

[66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, as amended at 75 FR 17860, Apr. 8, 2010]

§ 59.50 Priority list.

(a) The Secretary will make a list prioritizing the applications that were received on or before August 15 and that were approved under § 59.20 of this part. Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, applications will be prioritized from the highest to the lowest in the following order:

(1) *Priority group 1.* An application from a State that has made sufficient funds available for the project for which the grant is requested so that such project may proceed upon approval of the grant without further action required by the State (such as subsequent issuance of bonds) to make such funds available for the project. To meet this criteria, the State must provide to VA a letter from an authorized State budget official certifying that the State funds are, or will be, available for the project, so that if VA awards the grant, the project may proceed without further State action to make such funds available (such as further action to issue bonds). If the certification is based on an Act authorizing the project and making available the State's matching funds for the project, a copy of the Act must be submitted with the certification.

(i) *Priority group 1—subpriority 1.* An application for a project to remedy a condition, or conditions, at an existing facility that have been cited as threatening to the lives or safety of the residents in the facility by a VA Life Safety Engineer, a State or local government agency (including a Fire Marshal), or an accrediting institution (including the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations). This priority group does not include applications for the addition or replacement of building utility systems, such as heating and air conditioning systems or building features, such as roof replacements. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized in the following order: seismic; building construction; egress; building compartmentalization (e.g., smoke barrier, fire walls); fire alarm/detection; asbestos/hazardous materials; and all other projects. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

(ii) *Priority group 1—subpriority 2.* An application from a State that has not previously applied for a grant under 38 U.S.C. 8131–8137 for construction or acquisition of a State nursing home. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

(iii) *Priority group 1—subpriority 3.* An application for construction or acquisition of a nursing home or domiciliary from a State that has a great need for the beds that the State, in that application, proposes to establish. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

(iv) *Priority group 1—subpriority 4.* An application from a State for renovations to a State Home facility other than renovations that would be included in subpriority 1 of Priority group 1. Projects will be further prioritized in the following order: adult day health care construction; nursing home construction (e.g., patient privacy); code compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act; building systems and utilities (e.g., electrical; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); boiler; medical gasses; roof; elevators); clinical-support facilities (e.g., for dietetics, laundry, rehabilitation therapy); and general renovation/upgrade (e.g., warehouse, storage, administration/office, multipurpose). Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

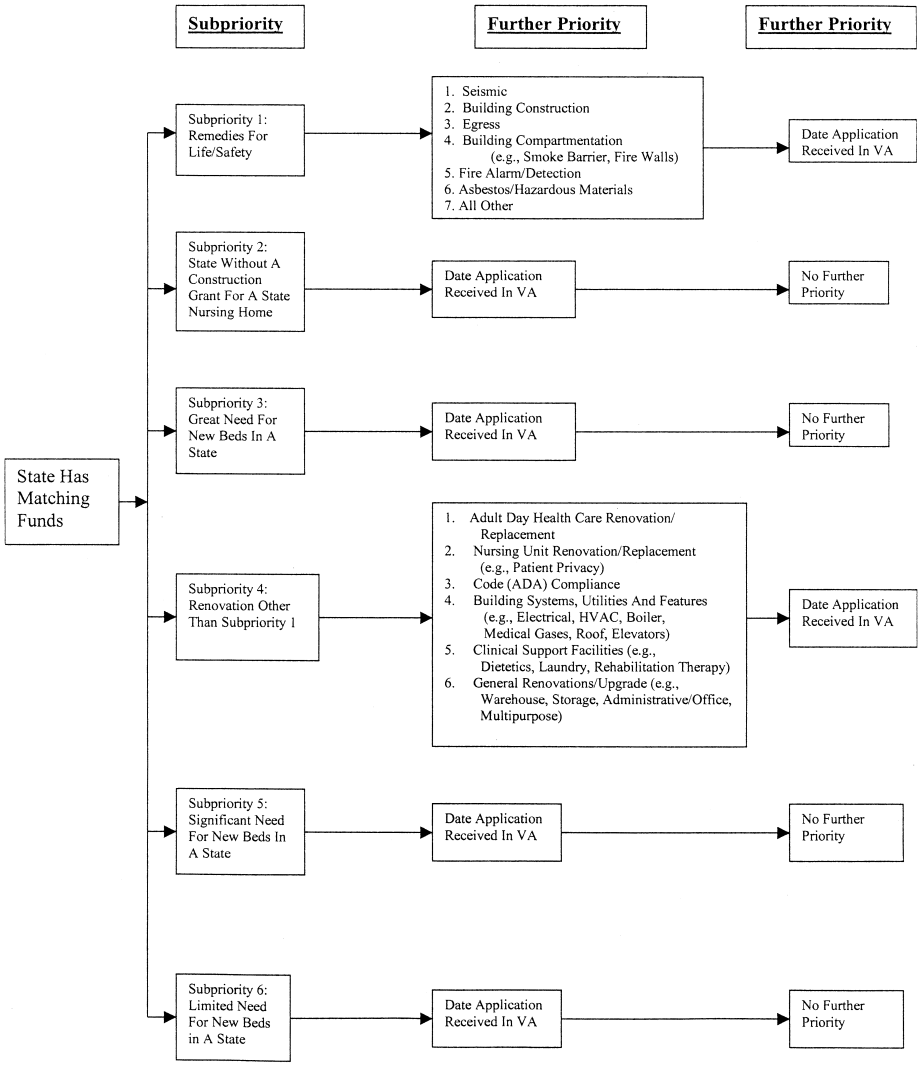
(v) *Priority group 1—subpriority 5.* An application for construction or acquisition of a nursing home or domiciliary from a State that has a significant

need for the beds that the State in that application proposes to establish. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

(vi) *Priority group 1—subpriority 6.* An application for construction or acquisition of a nursing home or domiciliary from a State that has a limited need for the beds that the State, in that application, proposes to establish. Projects in this subpriority will be further prioritized based on the date the application for the project was received in VA (the earlier the application was received, the higher the priority given).

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1): The following chart is intended to provide a graphic aid for understanding Priority group 1 and its subpriorities.

Example – Prioritization for Priority Group 1



(2) *Priority group 2.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section.

(3) *Priority group 3.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section.

(4) *Priority group 4.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this

section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section.

(5) *Priority group 5.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(iv) of this section.

(6) *Priority group 6.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section.

(7) *Priority group 7.* An application not meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1) of this section but meeting the criteria of paragraph (a)(1)(vi) of this section. Projects within this priority group will be further prioritized the same as in paragraph (a)(1)(vi) of this section.

(b)(1) If a State accepts a partial grant for a project under § 59.80(a)(2), VA will give that project the highest priority for the next fiscal year within the priority group to which it is assigned (without further prioritization of that priority group) to receive up to 30 percent of the funds available for that year. Funds available do not include funds conditionally obligated in the previous fiscal year under § 59.70(a)(2).

(2) If, in a given fiscal year, more than one State previously accepted a partial grant under § 59.80(a)(2), these partial-grant recipients will be further prioritized on the priority list for that fiscal year based on the date that VA first awarded a partial grant for the project (the earlier the grant was awarded, the higher the priority given). The partial-grant recipients, in aggregate, may receive up to 30 percent of the funds available for that year that would be set aside for partial-grant recipients.

(c) An application will be given priority on the priority list (after applications described in paragraph (b) of this section) for the next fiscal year ahead of all applications that had not been approved under § 59.20 on the date that the application was approved under § 59.20, if:

(1) During the current fiscal year VA would have awarded a grant based on the application except for the fact that VA determined that the State did not, by July 1, provide evidence that it had its matching funds for the project, and

(2) The State was notified prior to July 1 that VA had funding available for this grant application.

(d) The priority list will not contain any project for the construction or acquisition of a hospital or hospital beds.

(e) For purposes of establishing priorities under this section:

(1) A State has a great need for nursing home and domiciliary beds if the State:

(i) Has no State homes with nursing home or domiciliary beds, or

(ii) Has an unmet need of 2,000 or more nursing home and domiciliary beds;

(2) A State has a significant need for nursing home and domiciliary beds if the State has an unmet need of 1,000 to 1,999 nursing home and domiciliary beds; and

(3) A State has a limited need for nursing home and domiciliary beds if the State has an unmet need of 999 or fewer nursing home and domiciliary beds.

(f) Projects that could be placed in more than one subpriority will be placed in the subpriority toward which the preponderance of the cost of the project is allocated. For example, under priority group 1—subpriority 1, if a project for which 25 percent of the funds needed would concern seismic and 75 percent of the funds needed would concern building construction, the project would be placed in the subpriority for building construction.

(g) Once the Secretary prioritizes the applications in the priority list, VA will not change the priorities unless a change is necessary as a result of an appeal.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

[66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, as amended at 71 FR 46104, Aug. 11, 2006]

§ 59.60 Additional application requirements.

For a project to be eligible for a grant under this part for the fiscal year for which the priority list was made, during that fiscal year the State must submit to VA an original and a copy of the following:

(a) Complete, updated Standard Forms 424 (mark the box labeled application and submit the information requested for an application), 424C, and 424D (these forms are available on the internet Web site provided in § 59.170 of this part), and

(b) A completed VA Form 10–0388–5 and all information and documentation specified by VA Form 10–0388–5 (this form is available on the internet Web site provided in § 59.170).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

[66 FR 33847, June 26, 2001, as amended at 73 FR 58880, Oct. 8, 2008]

§ 59.70 Award of grants.

(a) The Secretary, during the fiscal year for which a priority list is made under this part, will:

(1) Award a grant for each application that has been approved under § 59.20, that is sufficiently high on the priority list so that funding is available for the application, that meets the additional application requirements in § 59.60, and that meets all other requirements under this part for obtaining a grant, or

(2) Conditionally approve a grant for a project for which a State has submitted an application that substantially meets the requirements of this part if the State representative requests conditional approval and provides written assurance that the State will meet all requirements for a grant not later than 180 calendar days after the date of conditional approval. If a State that has obtained conditional approval for a project does not meet all of the requirements within 180 calendar days after the date of conditional approval, the Secretary will rescind the conditional approval and the project will be ineligible for a grant in the fiscal year in which the State failed to fully complete the application. The funds that were conditionally obligated for the project will be deobligated.

(b) As a condition of receiving a grant, a State must make sufficient funds available for the project for which the grant is requested so that such project may proceed upon approval of the grant without further action required by the State (such as subsequent issuance of bonds) to make such funds available for such purpose. To meet this criteria, the State must provide to VA a letter from an authorized State budget official certifying that the State funds are, or will be, available for the project, so that if VA awards the grant, the project may proceed without further State action to make such funds available (such as further action to issue bonds). If the certification is based on an Act authorizing the project and making available the State's matching funds for the project, a copy of the Act must be submitted with the certification. To be eligible for inclusion in priority group 1 under this part, a State must make such funds available by August 15 of the year prior to the fiscal year for which the grant is requested. To otherwise be eligible for a grant and grant funds based on inclusion on the priority list in other than priority group 1, a State must make such funds available by July 1 of the fiscal year for which the grant is requested.

(c) As a condition of receiving a grant, the State representative and the Secretary will sign three originals of the Memorandum of Agreement documents (one for the State and two for VA). A sample is in § 59.170.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.80 Amount of grant.

(a) The total cost of a project (VA and State) for which a grant is awarded under this part may not be less than $400,000 and, except as provided in paragraph (i) of this section, the total cost of a project will not exceed the total cost of new construction. The amount of a grant awarded under this part will be the amount requested by the State and approved in accordance with this part, not to exceed 65 percent of the total cost of the project except that:

(1) The total cost of a project will not include the cost of space that exceeds the maximum allowable space specified in this part, and

(2) The amount of the grant may be less than 65 percent of the total cost of the project if the State accepts less because VA did not have sufficient funds to award the full amount of the grant requested.

(b) The total cost of a project under this part for acquisition of a facility may also include construction costs.

(c) The total cost of a project under this part will not include any costs incurred before the date VA sent the State written notification that the application in § 59.20 was approved.

(d) The total cost of a project under this part may include administration and production costs, e.g., architectural and engineering fees, inspection fees, and printing and advertising costs.

(e) The total cost of a project under this part may include the cost of projects on the grounds of the facility, e.g., parking lots, landscaping, sidewalks, streets, and storm sewers, only if they are inextricably involved with the construction of the project.

(f) The total cost of a project under this part may include the cost of equipment necessary for the operation of the State home facility. This may include the cost of:

(1) Fixed equipment included in the construction or acquisition contract. Fixed equipment must be permanently affixed to the building or connected to the heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or other service distributed through the building via ducts, pipes, wires, or other connecting device. Fixed equipment must be installed during construction. Examples of fixed equipment include kitchen and intercommunication equipment, built-in cabinets, and cubicle curtain rods; and

(2) Other equipment not included in the construction contract constituting no more than 10 percent of the total construction contract cost of the project. Other equipment includes: furniture, furnishings, wheeled equipment, kitchen utensils, linens, draperies, blinds, electric clocks, pictures and trash cans.

(g) The contingency allowance may not exceed five percent of the total cost of the project for new construction or eight percent for renovation projects.

(h) The total cost of a project under this part may not include the cost of:

(1) Land acquisition;

(2) Maintenance or repair work; or

(3) Office supplies or consumable goods (such as food, drugs, medical dressings, paper, printed forms, and soap) which are routinely used in a State home.

(i) A grant for expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing State home, which is on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, for furnishing domiciliary, nursing home, or adult day health care to veterans may not be awarded for the expansion, remodeling, or alteration of such building if such action does not comply with National Historic Preservation Act procedures or if the total cost of remodeling, renovating, or adapting such building or facility exceeds the cost of comparable new construction by more than five percent. If demolition of an existing building or facility on, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places is deemed necessary and such demolition action is taken in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act procedures, any mitigation cost negotiated in the compliance process and/or the cost to professionally record the building or facility in the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), plus the total cost for demolition and site restoration, shall be included by the State in calculating the total cost of new construction.

(j) The cost of demolition of a building cannot be included in the total cost of construction unless the proposed construction is in the same location as the building to be demolished or unless the demolition is inextricably linked to the design of the construction project.

(k) With respect to the final award of a conditionally-approved grant, the Secretary may not award a grant for an amount that is 10 percent more than the amount conditionally-approved.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.90 Line item adjustments to grants.

After a grant has been awarded, upon request from the State representative, VA may approve a change in a line item (line items are identified in Form 424C which is set forth in § 59.170(o) of this part) of up to 10 percent (increase or decrease) of the cost of the line item if the change would be within the scope or objective of the project and would not change the amount of the grant.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.100 Payment of grant award.

The amount of the grant award will be paid to the State or, if designated by the State representative, the State home for which such project is being carried out or any other State agency or instrumentality. Such amount shall be paid by way of reimbursement, and in such installments consistent with the progress of the project as the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, may determine and certify for payment to the appropriate Federal institution. Funds paid under this section for an approved project shall be used solely for carrying out such project as so approved. As a condition for the final payment, the State must comply with the requirements of this part based on an architectural and engineering inspection approved by VA, must obtain VA approval of the final equipment list submitted by the State representative, and must submit to VA a completed VA Form 10–0388–13 (this form is available on the internet Web site provided in § 59.170). The equipment list and the completed VA Form 10–0388–13 must be submitted to the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care (114), VHA Headquarters; 810 Vermont Avenue, NW.; Washington, DC 20420.

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137

[73 FR 58880, Oct. 8, 2008]

§ 59.110 Recapture provisions.

If a facility for which a grant has been awarded ceases to be operated as a State home for the purpose for which the grant was made, the United States shall be entitled to recover from the State which was the recipient of the grant or from the then owner of such construction as follows:

(a) If less than 20 years has lapsed since the grant was awarded, and VA provided 65 percent of the estimated cost to construct, acquire or renovate a State home facility principally for furnishing domiciliary care, nursing home care, adult day health care, hospital care, or non-institutional care to veterans, VA shall be entitled to recover 65 percent of the current value of such facility (but in no event an amount greater than the amount of assistance provided for such under these regulations), as determined by agreement of the parties or by action brought in the district court of the United States for the district in which the facility is situated.

(b) Based on the time periods for grant amounts set forth below, if VA provided between 50 and 65 percent of the estimated cost of expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing State home facility, VA shall be entitled to recover the amount of the grant as determined by agreement of the parties or by action brought in the district court of the United States for the district in which the facility is situated:

Grant amount (dollars in thousands)	Recovery period (in years)
0–250	7
251–500	8
501–750	9
751–1,000	10
1,001–1,250	11
1,251–1,500	12
1,501–1,750	13
1,751–2,000	14
2,001–2,250	15
2,251–2,500	16
2,501–2,750	17
2,751–3,000	18
Over 3,000	20

(c) If the magnitude of the VA contribution is below 50 percent of the estimated cost of the expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing State home facility recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Under Secretary for Health may authorize a recovery period between 7 and 20 years depending on the grant amount involved and the magnitude of the project.

(d) This section does not apply to any portion of a State home in which VA

has established and operates an outpatient clinic.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.120 Hearings.

If the Secretary determines that a submission from a State does not meet the requirements of this part, the Secretary will advise the State by letter that a grant is tentatively denied, explain the reasons for the tentative denial, and inform the State of the opportunity to appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 7105. Decisions under this part are not subject to the provisions of § 17.133 of this order.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 511, 1710, 1742, 7101–7298, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.121 Amendments to application.

Any amendment of an application that changes the scope of the application or changes the cost estimates by 10 percent or more shall be subject to approval in the same manner as an original application.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.122 Withdrawal of application.

A State representative may withdraw an application by submitting to VA a written document requesting withdrawal.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.123 Conference.

At any time, VA may recommend that a conference (such as a design development conference) be held in VA Central Office in Washington, DC, to provide an opportunity for the State and its architects to discuss requirements for a grant with VA officials.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.124 Inspections, audits, and reports.

(a) A State will allow VA inspectors and auditors to conduct inspections and audits as necessary to ensure compliance with the provisions of this part. The State will provide evidence that it has met its responsibility under the Single Audit Act of 1984 (see part 41 of this chapter) and submit that evidence to VA.

(b) A State will make such reports in such form and containing such information as the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, may from time to time reasonably require and give the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, upon demand, access to the records upon which such information is based.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.130 General requirements for all State home facilities.

As a condition for receiving a grant and grant funds under this part, States must comply with the requirements of this section.

(a) The physical environment of a State home must be designed, constructed, equipped, and maintained to protect the health and safety of participants, personnel and the public.

(b) A State home must meet the general conditions of the American Institute of Architects, or other general conditions required by the State, for awarding contracts for State home grant projects. Facilities must meet all Federal, State, and local requirements, including the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) (24 CFR part 40, appendix A), during the design and construction of projects subject to this part. If the State or local requirements are different from the Federal requirements, compliance with the most stringent provisions is required. A State must design and construct the project to provide sufficient space and equipment in dining, health services, recreation, and program areas to enable staff to provide residents with needed services as required by this part and as identified in each resident's plan of care.

(c) State homes should be planned to approximate the home atmosphere as closely as possible. The interior and exterior should provide an attractive and home-like environment for elderly residents. The site will be located in a safe,

secure, residential-type area that is accessible to acute medical care facilities, community activities and amenities, and transportation facilities typical of the area.

(d)(1) State homes must meet the applicable provisions of the National Fire Protection Association's NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2000 edition) and the NFPA 99, Standard for Health Care Facilities (1999 edition). Incorporation by reference of these materials was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. These materials, incorporated by reference, are available for inspection at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Room 1154, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202–741–6030, or go to: *http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html*. Copies may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269–9101. (For ordering information, call toll free 1–800–344–3555.)

(2) Facilities must also meet the State and local fire codes.

(e) State homes must have an emergency electrical power system to supply power adequate to operate all exit signs and lighting for means of egress, fire and medical gas alarms, and emergency communication systems. The source of power must be an on-site emergency standby generator of sufficient size to serve the connected load or other approved sources.

(f) The nurse's station must be equipped to receive resident calls through a communication system from resident rooms, toilet and bathing facilities, dining areas, and activity areas.

(g) The State home must have one or more rooms designated for resident dining and activities. These rooms must be:

(1) Well lighted;

(2) Well ventilated; and

(3) Adequately furnished.

(h) The facility management must provide a safe, functional, sanitary, and comfortable environment for the residents, staff and the public. The facility must:

(1) Ensure that water is available to essential areas when there is a loss of normal water supply;

(2) Have adequate outside ventilation by means of windows, or mechanical ventilation, or a combination of the two;

(3) Equip corridors with firmly secured handrails on each side; and

(4) Maintain an effective pest control program so that the facility is free of pests and rodents.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.140 Nursing home care requirements.

As a condition for receiving a grant and grant funds for a nursing home facility under this part, States must comply with the requirements of this section.

(a) Resident rooms must be designed and equipped for adequate nursing care, comfort, and privacy of residents. Resident rooms must:

(1) Accommodate no more than four residents;

(2) Have direct access to an exit corridor;

(3) Have at least one window to the outside;

(4) Be equipped with, or located near, toilet and bathing facilities (VA recommends that public toilet facilities also be located near the residents dining and recreational areas);

(5) Be at or above grade level;

(6) Be designed or equipped to ensure full visual privacy for each resident;

(7) Except in private rooms, each bed must have ceiling suspended curtains that extend around the bed to provide total visual privacy in combination with adjacent walls and curtains;

(8) Have a separate bed for each resident of proper size and height for the safety of the resident;

(9) Have a clean, comfortable mattress;

(10) Have bedding appropriate to the weather and climate;

(11) Have functional furniture appropriate to the resident's needs, and

(12) Have individual closet space with clothes racks and shelves accessible to the resident.

(b) Unless determined by VA as necessary to accommodate an increased quality of care for patients, a nursing home project may propose a deviation of no more than 10 percent (more or less) from the following net square footage for the State to be eligible for a grant of 65 percent of the total estimated cost of the project. If the project proposes building more than the following net square footage and VA makes a determination that it is not needed, the cost of the additional net square footage will not be included in the estimated total cost of construction.

TABLE TO PARAGRAPH (b)—NURSING HOME

I. Support facilities [allowable square feet (or metric equivalent) per facility for VA participation]:	
Administrator	200
Assistant administrator	150
Medical officer, director of nursing or equivalent	150
Nurse and dictation area	120
General administration (each office/person)	120
Clerical staff (each)	80
Computer area	40
Conference room (consultation area, in-service training)	500 (for each room)
Lobby/waiting area. (150 minimum/600 maximum per facility)	3 (per bed)
Public/resident toilets (male/female)	25 (per fixture)
Pharmacy [1].	
Dietetic service [1].	
Dining area	20 (per bed)
Canteen/retail sales	2 (per bed)
Vending machines (450 max. per facility)	1 (per bed)
Resident toilets (male/female)	25 (per fixture)
Child day care [1].	
Medical support (staff offices/exam/treatment room/family counseling, etc.).	140 (for each room)
Barber and/or beauty shops	140
Mail room	120
Janitor's closet	40
Multipurpose room	15 (per bed)
Employee lockers	6 (per employee)
Employee lounge (500 max. per facility)	120
Employee toilets	25 (per fixture)
Chapel	450
Physical therapy	5 (per bed)
Office, if required	120
Occupational therapy	5 (per bed).
Office, if required	120
Library	1.5 (per bed)
Building maintenance storage	2.5 (per bed)
Resident storage	6 (per bed)
General warehouse storage	6 (per bed)
Medical/dietary/pharmacy	7 (per bed)
General laundry [1].	
II. Bed units:	
One	150
Two	245
Large two-bed per unit	305
Four	460
Lounge areas (resident lounge with storage)	8 (per bed)
Resident quiet room	3 (per bed)
Clean utility	120

TABLE TO PARAGRAPH (b)—NURSING HOME—Continued

Soiled utility	105
Linen storage	150
General storage	100
Nurses station, ward secretary	260
Medication room	75
Exam/Treatment room	140
Waiting area	50
Unit supply and equipment	50
Staff toilet	25 (per fixture)
Stretcher/wheelchair storage	100
Kitchenette	150
Janitor's closet	40
Resident laundry	125
Trash collection	60
III. Bathing and Toilet Facilities:	
(A) Private or shared facilities:	
Wheelchair facilities	25 (per fixture)
Standard facilities	15 (per fixture)
(B) Full bathroom	75
(C) Congregate bathing facilities:	
First tub/shower	80
Each additional fixture	25

[1] The size to be determined by the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, as necessary to accommodate projected patient care needs (must be justified by State in space program analysis).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137; Sections 2, 3, 4, and 4a of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, Public Law 90–480, 42 U.S.C. 4151–4157)

§ 59.150 Domiciliary care requirements.

As a condition for receiving a grant and grant funds for a domiciliary under this part, the domiciliary must meet the requirements for a nursing home specified in § 59.140 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137)

§ 59.160 Adult day health care requirements.

As a condition for receiving a grant and grant funds under this part for an adult day health care facility, States must meet the requirements of this section.

(a) Each adult day health care program, when it is co-located in a nursing home, domiciliary, or other care facility, must have its own separate designated space during operational hours.

(b) The indoor space for an adult day health care program must be at least 100 square feet per participant including office space for staff, and must be 60 square feet per participant excluding office space for staff.

(c) Each program will need to design and partition its space to meet its own needs, but the following functional areas must be available:

(1) A dividable multipurpose room or area for group activities, including dining, with adequate table setting space.

(2) Rehabilitation rooms or an area for individual and group treatments for occupational therapy, physical therapy, and other treatment modalities.

(3) A kitchen area for refrigerated food storage, the preparation of meals and/or training participants in activities of daily living.

(4) An examination and/or medication room.

(5) A quiet room (with at least one bed), which functions to isolate participants who become ill or disruptive, or who require rest, privacy, or observation. It should be separate from activity areas, near a restroom, and supervised.

(6) Bathing facilities adequate to facilitate bathing of participants with functional impairments.

(7) Toilet facilities and bathrooms easily accessible to people with mobility problems, including participants in wheelchairs. There must be at least one toilet for every eight participants. The toilets must be equipped for use by persons with limited mobility, easily accessible from all programs areas, *i.e.*, preferably within 40 feet from that area, designed to allow assistance from one or two staff, and barrier free.

(8) Adequate storage space. There should be space to store arts and crafts materials, personal clothing and belongings, wheelchairs, chairs, individual handiwork, and general supplies. Locked cabinets must be provided for files, records, supplies, and medications.

(9) An individual room for counseling and interviewing participants and family members.

(10) A reception area.

(11) An outside space that is used for outdoor activities that is safe, accessible to indoor areas, and accessible to those with a disability. This space may include recreational space and a garden area. It should be easily supervised by staff.

(d) *Furnishings* must be available for all participants. This must include functional furniture appropriate to the participants' needs.

(e) Unless determined by VA as necessary to accommodate an increased quality of care for patients, an adult day health care facility project may propose a deviation of no more than 10 percent (more or less) from the following net square footage for the State to be eligible for a grant of 65 percent of the total estimated cost of the project. If the project proposes building more than the following net square footage and VA makes a determination that it is not needed, the cost of the additional net square footage will not be included in the estimated total cost of construction.

TABLE TO PARAGRAPH (e)—ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE

I. Support facilities [allowable square feet (or metric equivalent) per facility for VA participation]:	
Program Director	200
Assistant administrator	150
Medical officer, director of nursing or equivalent	150
Nurse and dictation area	120
General administration (each office/person)	120
Clerical staff (each)	80
Computer area	40
Conference room (consultation area, in-service training)	500 (for each room).
Lobby/receiving/waiting area (150 minimum)	3 (per participant)
Public/resident toilets (male/female)	25 (per fixture).
Dining area (may be included in the multipurpose room)	20 (per participant).
Vending machines	1 (per participant).
Participant toilets (male/female)	25 (per fixture).
Medical support (staff offices/family counseling, etc.)	140 (for each room).
Janitor's closet	40
Dividable multipurpose room	15 (per participant).
Employee lockers	6 (per employee)
Employee lounge	120
Employee toilets	25 (per fixture).
Physical therapy	5 (per participant).
Office, if required	120
Occupational therapy	5 (per participant).
Office, if required	120
Building maintenance storage	2.5 (per participant).
Resident storage	6 (per participant).
General warehouse storage	6 (per participant).
Medical/dietary	7 (per participant).
General laundry [1].	
II. Other Areas:	

TABLE TO PARAGRAPH (e)—ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE—Continued

Participant quiet room	3 (per participant).
Clean utility	120
Soiled utility	105
General storage	100
Nurses station, ward secretary	260
Medication/exam/treatment rooms	75
Waiting area	50
Program supply and equipment	50
Staff toilet	25 (per fixture).
Wheelchair storage	100
Kitchen	120
Janitor's closet	40
Resident laundry	125
Trash collection	60
III. Bathing and Toilet Facilities:	
(A) Private or shared facilities:	
Wheelchair facilities	25 (per fixture).
Standard facilities	15 (per fixture).
(B) Full bathroom	75

[1] The size to be determined by the Chief Consultant, Geriatrics and Extended Care, as necessary to accommodate projected patient care needs (must be justified by State in space program analysis).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137; Sections 2, 3, 4, and 4a of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, Public Law 90–480, 42 U.S.C. 4151–4157)

§ 59.170 Forms.

All forms required by this part are available on the internet at ''*http://www.va.gov/forms/*'' for VA Forms and at ''*http://www.gsa.gov*'' for Standard Forms, or at the Veterans Health Administration, Room 789, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 101, 501, 1710, 1742, 8105, 8131–8137, Section 2, 3, 4, and 4a of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, Pub. L. 90–480, 42 U.S.C. 4151–4157

[73 FR 58880, Oct. 8, 2008]

PART 60—FISHER HOUSES AND OTHER TEMPORARY LODGING

Sec.
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AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1708.

SOURCE: 68 FR 8549, Feb. 24, 2003, unless otherwise noted.

§ 60.1 Purpose.

This part sets forth requirements regarding the use of Fisher Houses and other temporary lodging by veterans receiving VA medical care or C&P examinations and a family member or other person accompanying the veteran to provide the equivalent of familial support.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1708)

§ 60.2 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part:

C&P examination means an examination requested by VA's Compensation and Pension Service to be conducted at a VA health care facility for the purpose of evaluating claims by veterans.

Temporary lodging means:

(1) Lodging at a Fisher House which is a housing facility that is located at or near a VA health care facility, that is available for residential use on a temporary basis by eligible persons, and that was constructed by and donated to VA by the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Armed Services Foundation or Fisher House Foundation; or

(2) Lodging at a temporary lodging facility located at a VA health care facility (generally referred to as a