

Updates to VA Lender Forms 26-8736 and 26-8736c

1. **Purpose.** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is publishing this Circular to advise stakeholders that VA Form 26-8736, *Application for Authority to Close Loans on the Automatic Basis – Non-Supervised Lenders*, was revised. Additionally, VA is introducing a new form, VA 26-8736c, *Request for Agent Recognition*.

2. **Background.** VA Form 26-8736 is used by non-supervised lenders to request authority to close VA-guaranteed loans on the automatic basis¹. The form was revised to include an application checklist and to allow applicants to designate points of contact for different business functions at the time of application.

a. Lenders with supervised and non-supervised automatic authority may request the ability to use an agent² to perform a portion of the work involved in originating and closing VA-guaranteed loans if they agree to take responsibility for all acts, errors, and omissions of the agent and its employees. Lenders cannot use an agent until VA recognizes the lender-agent relationship in writing. VA Form 26-8736c has been created to standardize the format of the information needed from the lender making such a request. Additional information on requesting VA recognition of a lender-agent relationship is available in VA Lenders Handbook M26-7 Chapter 1 Topic 7.

3. **Action.** Forms are available on VA's website: <https://www.va.gov/find-forms/>.

a. Lenders requesting non-supervised automatic authority should immediately start using the updated VA Form 26-8736. Previous versions of the form will not be accepted.

b. Lenders requesting the use of an agent may use VA Form 26-8736c upon publication. All agent recognition requests made on or after October 1, 2023, should be made using VA Form 26-8736c.

4. **Questions.** For questions or comments regarding the updated forms, please contact a VA Loan Specialist at 1-877-827-3702, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM Eastern time.

5. **Paperwork Reduction Act.** The information collection requirements contained in this document have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. § 3501-3520) and assigned OMB control number 2900-0252. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, VA may not conduct, or sponsor and a person is not required to respond, to a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

¹ 38 C.F.R. § 36.4352(b)

² 38 C.F.R. § 36.4352(b)(13)

6. Rescission: This Circular is valid until rescinded.

By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits

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