

# The AC-119 Gunship Association

  **July 27, 2023 News Flash**  

**AUGUST 9, 2023**

## **THIS IS AN IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER**

The PACT Act is a law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. The PACT adds to the list of health conditions that we “presume” are caused by exposure to these substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans and their survivors with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.

### **To Get Maximum PACT Act Benefits: Aug 9 Is the Deadline to Get Pay Backdated to 2022**

Veterans or their survivors who want to file benefit claims for a toxic exposure-related medical condition under the PACT Act need to do so -- or declare their intent to -- by August 9, 2023 if they hope to receive retroactive benefits dating back to President Joe Biden's signing of the law last year.

For PACT Act claims filed after Aug. 9, beneficiaries may still be eligible to receive a year of backdated benefits, but the year would count backward from the date they ultimately file, the Department of Veterans Affairs told Military.com by email. "VA will review their record to determine the earliest benefit start date possible," a spokesperson said.

The claim can be initiated by calling 1-800-698-2411 (TTY:711) or at [www.va.gov.com](http://www.va.gov.com).

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