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waived the right to appear. In that event, however, the ALJ will give the parties the opportunity to appear when the testimony is given, but may hold the hearing even if none of the parties decide to appear.

(g) An ALJ or attorney adjudicator may also issue a decision on the record on his or her own initiative if the evidence in the administrative record supports a fully favorable finding for the appellant, and no other party to the appeal is liable for the claims at issue, unless CMS or a contractor has elected to be a party to the hearing in accordance with § 405.1012.

(h) If more than one party timely files a request for hearing on the same claim before a decision is made on the first timely filed request, the requests are consolidated into one proceeding and record, and one decision, dismissal, or remand is issued.

[82 FR 5109, Jan. 17, 2017]

§ 405.1002 Right to an ALJ hearing.

(a) A party to a QIC reconsideration has a right to a hearing before an ALJ if—

(1) The party files a written request for an ALJ hearing within 60 calendar days after receipt of the notice of the QIC's reconsideration.

(2) The party meets the amount in controversy requirements of § 405.1006.

(3) For purposes of this section, the date of receipt of the reconsideration is presumed to be 5 calendar days after the date of the reconsideration, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

(4) For purposes of meeting the 60 calendar day filing deadline, the request is considered as filed on the date it is received by the office specified in the QIC's reconsideration.

(b) A party who files a timely appeal before a QIC and whose appeal continues to be pending before a QIC at the end of the period described in § 405.970 has a right to a hearing before an ALJ if—

(1) The party files a written request with the QIC to escalate the appeal for a hearing before an ALJ after the period described in § 405.970(a) and (b) has expired and the party files the request in accordance with § 405.970(d);

(2) The QIC does not issue a decision or dismissal order within 5 calendar

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days of receiving the request for escalation in accordance with § 405.970(e)(2); and

(3) The party has an amount remaining in controversy specified in § 405.1006.

[70 FR 11472, Mar. 8, 2005, as amended at 70 FR 37703, June 30, 2005; 74 FR 65335, Dec. 9, 2009; 82 FR 5109, Jan. 17, 2017]

§ 405.1004 Right to a review of QIC notice of dismissal.

(a) A party to a QIC's dismissal of a request for reconsideration has a right to have the dismissal reviewed by an ALJ or attorney adjudicator if—

(1) The party files a written request for review within 60 calendar days after receipt of the notice of the QIC's dismissal.

(2) The party meets the amount in controversy requirements of § 405.1006.

(3) For purposes of this section, the date of receipt of the QIC's dismissal is presumed to be 5 calendar days after the date of the dismissal notice, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

(4) For purposes of meeting the 60 calendar day filing deadline, the request is considered as filed on the date it is received by the office specified in the QIC's dismissal.

(b) If the ALJ or attorney adjudicator determines that the QIC's dismissal was in error, he or she vacates the dismissal and remands the case to the QIC for a reconsideration in accordance with § 405.1056.

(c) If the ALJ or attorney adjudicator affirms the QIC's dismissal of a reconsideration request, he or she issues a notice of decision affirming the QIC dismissal in accordance with § 405.1046(b).

(d) The ALJ or attorney adjudicator may dismiss the request for review of a QIC's dismissal in accordance with § 405.1052(b).

[70 FR 11472, Mar. 8, 2005, as amended at 70 FR 37703, June 30, 2005; 74 FR 65335, Dec. 9, 2009; 82 FR 5109, Jan. 17, 2017]

§ 405.1006 Amount in controversy required for an ALJ hearing and judicial review.

(a) *Definitions.* For the purposes of aggregating claims to meet the amount in controversy requirement for an ALJ hearing or judicial review: