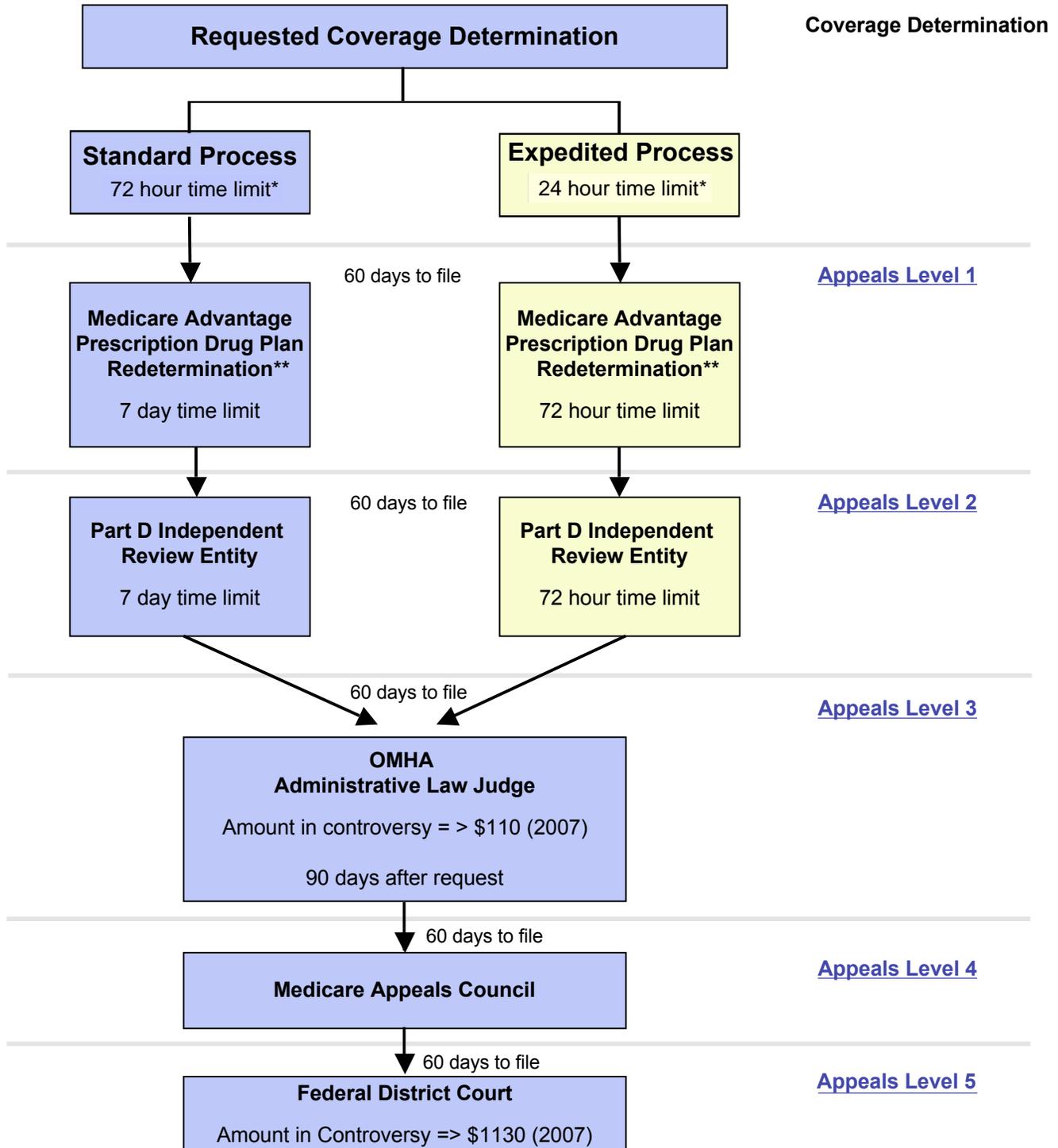


Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D) Appeals Process

The following chart provides an overview of the appeals process for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Plan D). For more information on each level, click on the level name on the left hand side of this document or visit <http://www.hhs.gov/omha/>



* The adjudication timeframes generally begin when the request is received by the plan sponsor. However, if the request involves an exception request, the adjudication timeframe begins when the plan sponsor receives the physician's supporting statement.

** A request for a coverage determination includes a request for a tiering exception or a formulary exception. A request for a coverage determination may be filed by the enrollee, the enrollee's appointed representative, or the enrollee's physician.

*** Starting in 2005, the AIC requirement for an ALJ hearing and Federal District Court will be adjusted in accordance with the medical care component of the consumer price index.