

## Deadlines for Social Security Disability Appeals

Q: Is it true that there are no deadlines for your social security disability application to be reviewed?

A: An initial decision on a [social security disability](#) claim does not have to be made in accordance with a set timeline. The average time it takes most cases to be initially reviewed, however, is about 90 days. In spite of the lack of mandatory timelines for the first review step for an application, it is important to note that there are deadlines for appeals. Missing a deadline for an appeal or reconsideration will have a negative impact on your social security disability case. Most often, you will need to file a new application and start at the initial review process again. You are required to submit your appeal for reconsideration or hearing request no later than 60 days after you received notification that your case was not approved. And simply putting it in the mailbox on the 60th day will not cut it. Social Security needs to have the appeal on record by that 60 day limit. The administration does grant you an additional 5 days to get the appeal submitted to give you some lee weigh for mailing time. You should not, however, put your case at risk by cutting a deadline too close. The best course of action is to submit that appeal as soon as you receive notification that your claim was not approved for benefits.

Q: Is it possible to speed up the date for your social security disability case hearing?

A: It can be tricky to try to speed up the hearing process for your claim. That being said, there some steps you can take to improve your chances. You can submit a dire need letter to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, if you are having trouble with your financial responsibilities (for example, making mortgage payments and paying medical bills.) Supporting documentation demonstrating your dire situation should accompany the letter. Things like copies of late notices and eviction letters will support your plea. The hearing office will then decide if your claim should be accelerated. You could also request an OTR review to speed up your case. This is simply when the hearing office reviews your case before the scheduled hearing. The medical evidence must be undeniable for a claim to be approved after an on the record review. A final alternative to help speed up the social security disability hearing process is through a congressional inquiry. Having legal representation is extremely beneficial if you plan to try to speed up the hearing date for your claim.

Q: Why would there be a witness for a social security disability claim during the hearing process?

A: Disability cases are decided based on medical evidence. It is up to the discretion of each individual judge as to whether witness testimony will actually be heard for a claim. Expert witnesses presenting medical and employment background are often utilized in hearings. Related [Social security disability](#) --

## About the Author

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