

## 1.0 Percent Participation Justification Form 2017-18

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* requires each district and charter school to complete and submit a justification when it anticipates exceeding 1.0 percent of students assessed in a subject area with the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment. Justifications from each district and charter school will be reviewed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), and follow up actions will be determined based on the information found in the justification document. Staff from the Exceptional Children and Accountability Divisions in each district and charter school should collaborate to provide the following information on the justification document. Responses to numbers 1-4 are required; it is optional to include additional information (see page 3). This justification document will be publicly posted. As such, the document **must not contain any personally identifiable information**. If necessary, additional pages may be attached to this form.

1. Enter contact information for the primary district/charter school staff member responsible for overseeing the completion of the justification form.	
3-Digit LEA/Charter Code: <i>020</i>	District/Charter Name: <i>Alexander County</i>
Contact Name: <i>Dr. Robyn Helton</i>	Contact Title: <i>Exceptional Children - Director</i>
Contact Phone No.: <i>828. 632. 7001</i>	Contact E-Mail: <i>rhelton@alexander.k12.nc.us</i>
2. Enter a description of how the district/charter school will assure that Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams are adhering to the eligibility criteria as outlined in the <i>Testing Students with Disabilities</i> publication when determining student eligibility for participation in the alternate assessment. <i>The district has developed a process to begin immediately using a Statement of Understanding of participation in alternate assessment. Teachers and administrators will receive training on the process and the use of the proper documentation to qualify a student for Extend 1. (form attached)</i>	
3. Enter a description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined and plans for how that disproportionality will be addressed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined: <i>Alexander County Schools saw a change in student population in the 2016-17 school year. This particular year we had an increase in one group, our EL population. This was an unusual circumstance for Alexander County and is not a pattern from year to year.</i></li> <li>• Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed: <i>The created Statement of Understanding for participation in the Extend 1 assessment will be used as a guide to help IEP teams determine the most appropriate assessment for each student.</i></li> </ul>	
4. Enter additional justification of variables not covered but deemed essential to understanding why the district/charter school has a higher rate of alternate assessment participation. <i>N/A</i>	

**Signatures**

Superintendent/Charter School Director

Jonathan F. Hepner

Date 5/7/18

Exceptional Children Director

Dr. Robyn Heltin

Date May 7, 2018

LEA/Charter Test Coordinator

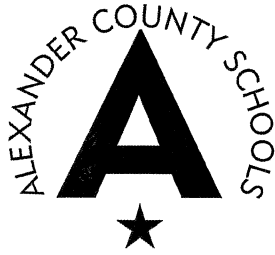
Anita Jenkins

Date 5/7/18

The completed justification form must be signed by the superintendent/charter school director, exceptional children's director, and testing coordinator. The form must be scanned and emailed to [alternatassessment@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:alternatassessment@dpi.nc.gov) by **May 4, 2018**.

The NCDPI will notify districts/charter schools in writing if further information is needed and will include next steps. For questions, please contact your Exceptional Children Director or Regional Accountability Coordinator.

**Note:** See page 3 for additional information that can be included but is not required.



# Alexander County Schools

700 LILEDOUN ROAD  
TAYLORSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28681

## Statement of Understanding of Participation in Alternate Assessment

Alternate assessments are tools used to evaluate the performance of students who are unable to participate in general state assessments even with accommodations. Alternate assessments provide a mechanism for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities and for other students who may need alternate assessment formats to be included in the accountability system.

In general, alternate assessment participants are those students with disabilities who are unable to participate in regular assessments even with accommodations. Some of these students may have significant cognitive disabilities and can be assessed using alternate formats aligned to the grade-level content, but based on alternate achievement standards that define proficiency differently from the general assessment. Other students may require alternate assessments aligned to grade-level content that is based on grade-level achievement standards, or the same definition of proficiency as the general assessment.

- I. I understand that my child is participating in an alternate assessment and meets the following eligibility requirements:
- Has a significant cognitive disability,
  - Has a current IEP,
  - Is enrolled in grades 3-8, 10, or 11, according to PowerSchool,
  - Is instructed using the North Carolina Extended Content Standards in all assessed areas (i.e., English Language Arts/Reading, Mathematics, and Science),
  - Requires substantial modifications, adaptations, or supports to meaningfully access the grade-level content,
  - Requires intensive individualized instruction in order to acquire and generalize knowledge, and
  - Is unable to demonstrate achievement of academic content standards on a paper and pencil test, even with accommodations.
- II. I understand that my child is following extensions of the standard course of study and pursuing the graduation certificate.

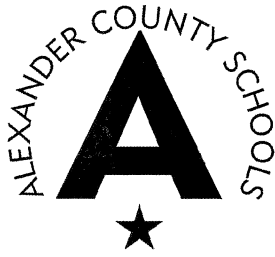
The above information was explained on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
and all parties have indicated their understanding.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

EC Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

LEA Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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## Documentation of Participation in Alternate Assessment

Parent/Guardian notified on: \_\_\_\_\_  
date

- Hand delivered
- Email
- Student
- Telephone
- Postal system
- Other