

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: 050	District/Charter Name: Ashe County Schools
Contact Name: Terry Richardson	Contact Title: Director of Exceptional Children Services
Contact Phone No.: 336-846-3221	Contact E-Mail: terry.richardson@ashe.k12.nc.us
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.	
SEE ATTACHED	
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"> • Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined: 	
SEE ATTACHED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed: 	
SEE ATTACHED	
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.	
SEE ATTACHED	

Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director

Phyllis Gates

Date

4-30-2018

Exceptional Children Director

Terry Puhauer

Date

4/27/18

LEA/Charter Test Coordinator

Sarah Blewins

Date

4-27-18

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 alternateassessment@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.

2.

- Ashe County School staff who participate as members of IEP teams or other placement teams are and will continue training on the guidelines established by the State so that all students will be appropriately assessed. To ensure we are in compliance and students are placed appropriately in NCEXTEND1 alternative assessment, training at the beginning of each school year is provided. (8/17/17) A PowerPoint with the NCEXTEND1 Eligibility Criteria is reviewed with all EC teacher, related service staff and administrators. All administrators, EC teachers and testing personnel receive an email with the NCEXTEND1 Eligibility Criteria and are instructed to follow it during all IEP meetings. (4/26/2018)

3.

- Ashe County Schools Testing Coordinator and Director of Exceptional Children Program, reviews the 1.0 Percent Cap Rules and Regulations PowerPoint. The Testing Coordinator provides Data from the ALTPART050.xls to EC Director with subgroups. 3/16/2017, 4/9/2018
- At the end and beginning of each year, all EC teachers and administrators review any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups. 5/17, 8/17/17, EOG/EOC and other data is reviewed. Professional development opportunities was provided to staff. Example: Ashe County used data results to provide professional development on How to Increase Academic/Interest in Boys

4.

- After reviewing records and data, Ashe County is a rural area, and simply has the student population that has more students with significant cognitive disabilities. We are barely

over the 1.0%. This contributes to the alternate assessment participation rate. Ashe County Schools EC department went through a State monitoring for compliance this spring and there were no deficiencies in this area.