

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: 61R	District/Charter Name: Matthews Charter Academy
Contact Name: Bobbie Grammer	Contact Title: Special Education Supervisor
Contact Phone No.: 910-977-1588	Contact E-Mail: bgrammer@nhaschools.com
<p>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.</p> <p>Matthews Charter Academy opened in the 2016-17 school year. The students that are enrolled in the school were all selected from a lottery of students that applied to attend the school. All students being evaluated on the Extend 1 were identified in the school district that they previously were educated. When the school started the first year there were eight students that were following the Extended Content Standards, four being in one grade. Teachers have been trained and are aware of the criteria for participating in the Extend 1 assessment. The teachers are aware of how to access the “Testing Students with Disabilities” on the DPI website. At each IEP the parents were told about the assessment that their child would be participating and participated in making the decision.</p> <p>Steps that will be taken to address exceeding the 1% participation in the alternate assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all teachers, administrators, and related service personnel that serve on IEP teams are trained on the criteria for participating on the Extend 1 alternate assessment. • Ensure all teachers, administrators, and related service personnel are trained on how to determine if a student educational needs are best met through the Extended Content Standards. • Create a document that can be given to parents when the decision about statewide assessments. 	
<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined: The students that are enrolled in Matthews Charter Academy are selected on a lottery basis and when selected, the school is not aware of the race/ethnicity or socioeconomic status of the students. Also, the school does not know if the student has an IEP. Matthews Charter Academy has not been 	

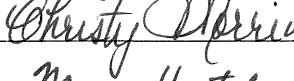
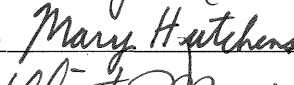

1.0 Percent Participation Justification Form 2017–18

identified as having disproportionality. The students that are participating in the Extend 1 this year, are from different racial/ethnic groups.

- Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed:
The students are enrolled in Matthews Charter Academy through a nondiscriminatory process.

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.
Matthews Charter Academy is finding that more parents of students with more significant disabilities are applying to the charter school. The first year the school was opened there was a need for a class that taught children on the Extended Content Standards. The number of children with more significant disabilities that are selected through the lottery process is increasing.

Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director	Christy Morrin		Date	<u>4.24.18</u>
Exceptional Children Director	Mary Hutchens		Date	<u>4-24-18</u>
LEA/Charter Test Coordinator	Christy Morrin		Date	<u>4.24.18</u>

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.