

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: 660

District/Charter Name: Northampton County

Contact Name: Tikisha Joyner White

Contact Title: Exceptional Children's Director

Contact Phone No.: 252-534-1371

Contact E-Mail: joynert@northampton.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 *Testing Students with Disabilities* publication when determining student eligibility for participation in the alternate assessment.

During our yearly Exceptional Children's Boot Camp, which is held in September our teachers discuss eligibility criteria outlined in the *Testing Students with Disabilities*. We also discuss this criteria in our district-wide monthly Exceptional Children's Meeting held in April with the Testing Department. We meet jointly to discuss the *Testing Students with Disabilities* publication. In addition to these practices, we also discuss eligibility criteria at annual review/ initial/ transfer-in meetings to ensure we have only students who benefit solely from the NC Extended Content Standards taking the NCEXTEND 1 Alternate Assessment.

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.

- Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined:

Due to the number of non-disabled students we have participating in grade-level testing and the percentage of students who are non-African American our district will show as having a disproportionality in the area of race. All of our students who take the NCEXTEND 1 Alternate Assessment except two are African American. Currently, Northampton County Schools is composed of 1422 African American students, 194 White students, 82 Hispanic students, 10 Asian students, 2 American Indian students, 1 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander student, and 52 two or more ethnicities.

- Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed:

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.

Our district never uses the practice of moving our students from the alternate assessment to the general assessment or vice versa. We take care in assuring that we have thorough discussions during each Individual Education Plan Meeting to ensure that students taking the NCEXTEND 1 Alternate Assessment are only those who require the NC Extended Content Standards. We use data from formal and informal assessments, classroom data, teacher input and parental input during meetings to ensure there is appropriate dialogue when placing each student in their least restrictive or most restrictive setting.

Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director

Exceptional

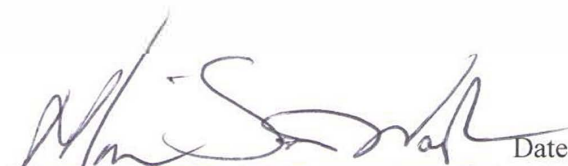
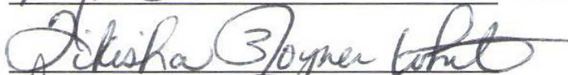
Children Director

Date

LEA/Charter Test

Coordinator

Date

	Date	<u>4/19/2018</u>
		<u>4/19/18</u>
		<u>4/19/2018</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.