

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: 730	District/Charter Name: Person County Schools
Contact Name: Jill McKenna	Contact Title: Senior Executive Director of Student Support
Contact Phone No.: 336-599-2191	Contact E-Mail: mckennaj@person.k12.nc.us
<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>Person County Schools Exceptional Children Programs staff will train school administrators and EC teachers annually on the eligibility criteria for participation in the alternate assessment as outlined in the <i>Testing Students with Disabilities</i> publication. During internal audit/record review processes, EC Program staff will review justification statements for participation in the alternate assessment for alignment with the eligibility criteria. A process will be established, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, for a district staff member to attend IEP meetings in which the team is considering moving a student to the alternate assessment. The district staff will ensure that appropriate data is reviewed to guide decision-making, as well as facilitate discussions regarding the ramifications of taking the alternate assessment.</p>	
<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: <p>While disaggregated data will be reviewed for each grade level and tested subject, the District will use the composite (“all”) data for reading and math when determining whether there is disproportionality due to the small number of students taking the alternate assessment at each grade. Risk ratios will be calculated for all subgroups with at least 5 students participating in the alternate assessment. If the risk ratio for the subgroup is greater than 3, the district will examine whether there is a research-based reason for the difference and address issues found.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed: <p>Using the calculation method above, the only subgroup found to have a risk ratio greater than 3 was males. According to the CDC, males are affected by developmental disabilities at twice the rate of females; therefore this is an expected difference. Person County Schools will review records of all students taking the alternate assessment to verify that the student meets the eligibility criteria.</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>Person County Schools has a small number of students at tested grade levels. The difference between being over and under the 1% at any given grade level ranges from one to four students. The difference between being over and under the 1% for all (reading and math) is ten students.</p>	

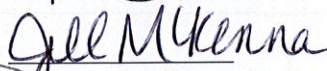
Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director



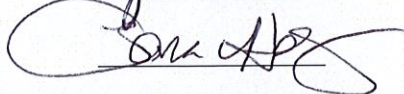
Date 4/25/18

Exceptional Children Director



Date 4/25/18

LEA/Charter Test Coordinator



Date 4/25/18

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.