

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: 980	District/Charter Name: Wilson County Schools
Contact Name: Dr. Robin Wright	Contact Title: Ex. Dir. of Exceptional Children
Contact Phone No.: 252-399-7781	Contact E-Mail: robin.wright@wilsonschoolsnc.net
<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><i>To ensure that school IEP teams are adhering to the eligibility criteria, Wilson County Schools Exceptional Children's Department, in collaboration with the Accountability Department, have developed the following local processes and procedural safeguards:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Provide annual training to test coordinators and special education teachers regarding information outlined in the Testing Students with Disabilities Manual.</i> <i>2. The EC dept. provides written and electronic copies of the guidelines for determining placement on the Extended Content Standards and assessing using the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment. These are available for quick reference during IEP meetings.</i> <i>3. District staff from the EC dept. is required to participate in the IEP team meeting if the IEP team is considering placing a student on the alternate assessment for the first time to discuss the requirements and review the data with the team.</i> <i>4. The EC and Accountability Departments work collaboratively to monitor accommodations and students taking the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment during each testing cycle.</i> 	
<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"> <i>Description of how any disproportionality among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups is defined: WCS would define disproportionality as +/- 10% compared to district average. The data shows that we are not disproportionate among the race categories (EXTEND1 population vs. District): Black +7%, Hispanic -3.2%, White -8.1%, Multiracial +4.4%. However, data suggests disproportionality among gender (EXTEND1 population vs. District): Males +19.4%, Females -19.4%.</i> <i>Plans for how disproportionality will be addressed:</i> <i>The EC Dept. will continue to work collaboratively with the Accountability Department to provide annual training to test coordinators and special education teachers regarding information outlined in the Testing Students with Disabilities Manual, as they are identifying students for the NCEXTEND1 as an alternate assessment.</i> <i>District staff from the EC dept. is required to participate in the IEP team meeting if the IEP team is considering placing a student on the Extended Content Standards (grades K-12) and using the EXTEND1 Alternate Assessment (grades 3-8, 10, and 11). All available student performance data is reviewed.</i> <i>The EC depart will continue to work collaboratively with the Accountability team to monitor accommodations and students taking the NCEXTEND1 alternate assessment for each testing cycle, looking for possible signs of disproportionality according to race, gender or socioeconomic status.</i> 	

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.

When the overall data is combined to include grades 3-8, 10, and 11, Wilson County Schools does NOT exceed 1% of students assessed on the EXTEND1. Sixty-six students out of 6,973 in tested grades will take the EXTEND1 in the 2017-18 school year (0.947%). Disaggregation reveals larger numbers of students taking EXTEND1 only in certain grades: 5th, 8th, and 11th (the areas we are over 1.0%).

Additionally, Wilson County Schools has documented that 3.5% of our student population has transferred to charter, home, and private schools within the county in the current school year – none of these transferring students were taking EXTEND1. This inflates our percentages of EXTEND1 students within the district, yet as a county we are well below the expected 1%. The overall rates, adjusted for lost population would be:

Grade span	Adjusted Enrollment	EXTEND1 students	%
3-8	5472	49	0.895%
10	952	8	0.840%
11	793	9	1.135%
5+8	1773	21	1.184%
Tested grades	7217	66	0.915%

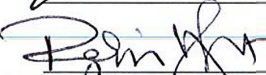
Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director



Date 4/27/18

Exceptional Children Director



Date 4-26-2018

LEA/Charter Test Coordinator



Date 4-26-2018

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.