

1.0 Percent Participation Justification Form 2018–19

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 (i.e., English Language Arts/Reading, Mathematics, and/or Science) 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 Sections 1–4 and the designated signatures are required; it is optional to include additional information (see page 5). 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.

Section 1: Contact Information

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: 861
Contact Name: Tracee McManus
Contact Phone No.: 336-835-3135
District/Charter Name: Elkin City Schools
Contact Title: Director of Student Services
Contact E-Mail: mcmanust@elkin.k12.nc.us

Section 2: Analyzing Contributing Factors

Did the Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams utilize the alternate assessment eligibility criteria and the North Carolina Alternate Assessment Decision Making Flow Chart to make alternate assessment participation decisions?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Indicate how all members of the IEP teams have been informed or trained on the alternate assessment eligibility criteria and the North Carolina Alternate Assessment Decision Making Flow Chart. Check all that apply.

Training Method	School Administration	Special Education Staff	Parents	Related Service Staff
Face-to-face training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Given copy of guidance documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No training provided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please explain below	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Other, please explain below:

With a newly hired EC Director, during the 2018-2019 school year, efforts have been made to evaluate each students' placement in the Extended Content Standards. There were several students taken out of the Extended Content Standards and EXTEND 1 due to not meeting eligibility criteria once the EC Director reviewed the information with staff. Students were removed from the EXTEND 1 and are now taking the regular EOG.

Does the district or charter school identify students to participate in the alternate assessment that do not traditionally participate (i.e., Speech and Language Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, etc.)? If yes, please explain how the district determined these students meet the criteria for participation in the alternate assessment.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Explain below:

Students who were participating in the alternate assessment who did not meet eligibility criteria were removed at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year.

Does the district or charter school provide a targeted program that may contribute to a higher enrollment of students with significant cognitive disabilities?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Explain below:

There is not a targeted program in Elkin City Schools.

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Does the district or charter school have a small overall student population that increased the likelihood of exceeding the 1.0 percent threshold?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Explain below:

Some grade levels only have 1 or 2 students participating in the alternate assessment. The student records have been reviewed to ensure they meet eligibility criteria. Due to our overall student population, we are over the 1% cap even with only 1 or 2 students participating. In the 3rd grade, there are 5 students participating. However, each of these students do meet eligibility criteria. Their performance and documentation have been reviewed by administration and special education staff to ensure they are placed appropriately.

Section 3: Assurances

Does the district or charter school have a process in place to monitor alternate assessment participation?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Explain below:

Before students are selected to participate in the alternate assessment, the eligibility guidelines are reviewed with the IEP in order to explain the alternate assessment to all staff and parents. Parents and staff also discuss the eventual pathway of taking an alternate assessment throughout the child's educational career.

Does the district or charter school have a process in place to identify and address disproportionality in alternate assessment participation (specifically, among race, gender, or socioeconomic status groups)?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Explain below:

There has not been student disproportionality identified in Elkin City Schools. Each child is evaluated based on their specific needs before a determination is made.

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Section 4: Resources and Technical Assistance

What resources and technical assistance does the district or charter school need from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to ensure that students are being assessed using the appropriate assessment?

None at this time. The district's EC director and Testing/Accountability have worked with school administration and staff to ensure students taking the alternate assessment are eligible.

Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director	<u>Myra S Cox</u>	Date	<u>4-1-19</u>
Exceptional Children Director/Coordinator	<u>J. McManus</u>	Date	<u>4-1-19</u>
LEA/Charter School Test Coordinator	<u>J. Settle</u>	Date	<u>4-1-19</u>

The completed justification form must be signed by the superintendent/charter school director, exceptional children's director/coordinator, and LEA/charter school testing coordinator. The form must be scanned and emailed to alternateassessment@dpi.nc.gov by May 3, 2019.

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 5 for additional information that can be included but is not required.