

# 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.

<b>3-Digit LEA/Charter Code:</b> 181
<b>Contact Name:</b> Tammy Beach
<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> 828.322.2855
<b>District/Charter Name:</b> Hickory City Schools
<b>Contact Title:</b> EC Director
<b>Contact E-Mail:</b> beachta@hickoryschools.net

## 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:

N/A

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:

N/A

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:

N/A

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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:

N/A

### Section 3: Assurances

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Explain below:

Hickory Public Schools has a procedure in place to monitor alternate assessment participation. It is our procedure to invite Jennifer Dale, one of our EC Program Specialists, to every IEP meeting where an alternate assessment participation is being discussed. The team then goes through the eligibility criteria with parents.

This procedure has been discussed repeatedly in Principals' meetings as well as in our monthly EC Seminars. This procedure is documented in our EC Livebinder, EC Seminar agendas, and through emails sent by the EC Director, Tammy Beach.

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:

We currently have forty-nine students listed as eligible for alternate assessments. Eighteen of those students attend the Conover School, a public separate school hosted by Newton-Conover City Schools. Of the remaining thirty-nine students, we do have a larger number of males (23) than females (8). The race of our students on alternative assessments seems proportionate with our student demographic information.

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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?

Hickory Public Schools doesn't need resources or technical assistance from NCDPI to ensure appropriate assessments are being utilized for our EC students. We will continue to convey to all members of IEP teams that there are eligibility criteria that need to be analyzed and followed when making this critical decision which will impact visions/expectations for future student endeavors.

### Signatures

Superintendent/Charter School Director

*Robbie Adair*

Date

*4/16/19*

Exceptional Children Director/Coordinator

*Debra Beach*

Date

*4/16/19*

LEA/Charter School Test Coordinator

*Shawn Clemons*

Date

*4-16-19*

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](mailto: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.