Block Diagram Instructions
Review Committee for Ophthalmology

A block diagram is a representation of the rotation schedule for a resident/fellow in a given postgraduate year. It offers information on the type, location, length, and variety of rotations for that year. When creating a block diagram, keep in mind:

- The block diagram shows the rotations a resident/fellow will have in a particular year of the educational program; it does not represent the order in which they occur.
- There should be only one block diagram for each year of education.
- The block diagram should not include resident/fellow names. The block diagram is not a resident/fellow schedule.
- Someone from outside of the institution should be able to look at a program’s block diagrams and understand the educational experience of the residents/fellows.

Tips for Completing the Block Diagram

- Programs that have established the integrated or joint format must include a block diagram for the PGY-1 year.
- Identify sites by using the site numbers listed in the Accreditation Data System (ADS) Sites tab (1, 2, etc.).
- Within each year, group rotations by site. For example, list Site 1 rotations first, followed by Site 2 rotations, etc.
- Ensure the block diagram information matches the Participating Site information section of ADS. For example, if the participating site information in ADS indicates Year 1 residents spend three months at Site 2, the block diagram should show Year 1 residents are at Site 2 for three months.
- The “% Research” row in the block diagram is for dedicated research time reserved on a resident’s/fellow’s schedule.
- Rotation names should be as specific as possible and identify the educational experience (e.g., general ophthalmology, glaucoma, pediatric ophthalmology).
  - The rotation name must include more than the name of the site. For example, “VA” is an insufficient description of the educational experience, whereas “VA Comp Ophth” is acceptable.
- Include a Notes section below the block diagrams and provide:
  - Site numbers and names
  - Abbreviations
  - Vacation
  - Rotation options if there are elective rotations
  - Any other information that helps the Committee understand the block diagrams
- Prior to saving the fillable block diagram as a PDF to upload into ADS, ensure the block diagram fits on one page. Notes can be on a second page.
**Example Block Diagram**

*In this example, the ophthalmology program’s second year rotations are divided into four blocks of equal duration.*

**Year 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Number</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotation Name</td>
<td>Cornea</td>
<td>Comp Ophth</td>
<td>Comp Ophth</td>
<td>Ped Ophth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Clinical</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Research</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

- **Sites:**
  1=George University Hospital
  2=Veterans Administration Hospital
  3=Western Children's Hospital

- **Abbreviations:**
  Comp Ophth=Comprehensive Ophthalmology
  Ped Ophth=Pediatric Ophthalmology

- **Vacation:** Three weeks per year