

Block Diagram Tips and Recommendations Review Committee for Emergency Medicine

When evaluating a program, it is important that the Review Committee understand how the program curriculum is arranged and how it meets the curricular requirements as demonstrated by the block diagram. The block diagram should provide information on the type, location, rotation length, and variety of rotations for each year of the educational program.

The block diagram:

- is not a resident's call schedule;
- should not include individual resident names; and,
- should not reflect blocks specifically assigned to vacation.

The following information is provided to help programs clearly document their curriculum on the block diagram.

Recommended Method of Entry

1. Enter all emergency medicine blocks first.
2. Enter all pediatric blocks second (start with the pediatric emergency medicine rotation if one exists).
3. Enter critical care rotations third (start with the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) rotation if that exists for the academic year being represented).
4. Enter all other rotations last.

Calculate the percentage of emergency medicine rotations, which should be greater than 60 percent (requirement 4.11.e.). Emergency ultrasound may count toward the 60-percent requirement, but *emergency medical services may not*. Blocks labeled "orientation" must delineate if emergency medicine clinical time/shifts are included in order to count toward the 60-percent emergency department time requirement.

If the number of pediatric rotations (requirement 4.11.c.) is fewer than five blocks, use the longitudinal pediatric conversion calculation:

- Multiply the number of general emergency department months or four-week blocks by the percentage of pediatric patients to determine if additional pediatric time is needed.
 - For example, if 15 percent of patients are pediatric and the resident spends 20 months in the emergency department ($20 \text{ months} \times .15 = 3$ or the equivalent of three months), the resident would need two additional months of dedicated pediatric experiences. For this example, Site 1 has a pediatric volume of 15 percent.

Answer the following questions related to the critical care experience (requirement 4.11.b.):

- Are the critical care rotations occurring in a critical care unit (e.g., medical intensive care unit (MICU), intensive care unit (ICU), surgical intensive care unit (SICU))?
- Are there four months of dedicated critical care experiences, including critical care of infants and children (PICU, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU))? Reminder: PICU is required, NICU is not.
- Do at least two of these months occur at the PGY-2 level or above?

General Tips:

- Split months can be challenging to count. Unless otherwise indicated at the bottom of the block diagram, a 50/50 split is assumed.
- Critical care rotations must occur in critical care units, not in the emergency department.
- Ensure that site numbers correspond to the numbering in the Accreditation Data System (ADS).

Include a key at the bottom of the diagram to define abbreviations, explain how vacation time is scheduled, and any other relevant explanations/clarification.

Example Block Diagram – 12 blocks

Complete one table for each PGY year of the program.

Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Site	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 2
Rotation Name	Orientation	Anesthesia	US	EM	OB	EM	SICU	EM	EM	MICU	EM	PEM

Example Block Diagram – 13 blocks

Complete one table for each PGY year of the program.

Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Site	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 1	Site 2	Site 1
Rotation Name	Orientation	Anesthesia	US	EM	OB	EM	EM	EM	Admin	PICU	EM	PEM	Ortho

KEY

Sites

- Site 1: [institution name]
- Site 2: [institution name]

Elective Options:

Rotation Names

Admin=Administrative Duties	PEM=Pediatric Emergency Medicine
MICU=Medical Intensive Care Unit	PICU=Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
OB=Obstetrics and Gynecology	SICU=Surgical Intensive Care Unit
Ortho=Orthopaedic Surgery	US=Ultrasound