



EMS PROFESSIONS

The **Platinum Educational Group** monthly newsletter is dedicated to EMS instructors, administrators, and providers. If you have any questions please reach out to us anytime either by [email](#) or call **616.818.7877**.

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Springtime Pot O' Gold?

March is upon us. Could springtime be close behind? I know for us folks in the north it is a welcomed season! To kick the month off, **MARCH on over to our [Facebook Fan Page](#)** and get entered to **win a \$50 Gift Card** just for giving us a like! An easy pot o' gold to win!

Have a safe and happy St. Patty's Day from all of us at Platinum Educational Group



Who is Platinum Educational Group, exactly?

As Platinum Educational Group continues to broaden the versatility of their solutions for healthcare professions, as well as increase our audience, we would like to remind people of

who we are and what we do!

We are staunch advocates for the highest degree of training for all EMS levels. **We are proud to boast the best study prep and skills tracking programs for each.**

"Excellent easy to use software that is an asset to any educational program." - Mark Boisclair, EMS Lead Instructor, Chattahoochee Valley Community College

Factoid: We have delivered over 230 new features to our customers, many at their request, in the past two years!

Our Mission: Deliver valid and reliable testing, assessment, scheduling, skills tracking, and reporting solutions.

Our Vision: Every learner in the world can benefit from our solutions.



Appendix G and Me

2019 Appendix G Workshops Announced! Join Us

Platinum Educational Group is excited to offer you exclusive 1 day workshops concerning the upcoming Appendix G changes and how it will affect your program. This 6 hour workshop is designed to arm EMS administrators, instructors, and clinical coordinators with knowledge of the upcoming industry changes to Appendix G.

There are many benefits to attend including:

- Complimentary coffee, snacks, AND lunch
- FREE I/C CE credits! (where applicable)
- \$100 credit for any program that has a Platinum Educational Group account (You do NOT have to be a Platinum customer to attend our workshops)
- All Hotel events offer room discounts

Click on individual events below for full details

[March 19, Pittsburgh, PA \(Holiday Inn Express Airport\)](#)

[April 5, Santa Fe Springs, CA \(LA County EMS\)](#)

[April 8, Portland, OR \(Portland Community College\)](#)

[May 1, Atlanta, GA \(Best Western Airport\)](#)



Five Big Things in February

What Has Platinum Been Up To?

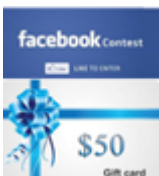
Each month we are going to keep you up to date on important updates to our software, the big projects we have been tackling, and our community involvement. So, for the month of February...

[Five big things in February.](#)



Platinum's Annual Scholarship Program Information Notification List

Both students and instructors have been very excited about [Platinum Educational Group's Annual Scholarship Program](#). Every year we award one lucky student with a direct-to-school paid scholarship in each of the following fields; EMS, NURSING, and ALLIED HEALTH! We have had numerous emails and phone calls asking when students can start applying. Well, the time is almost upon us! The 2019 scholarship packet will be available near future. **If you would like to be on our scholarship notification list, [CLICK HERE](#).** This will ensure YOUR students will get the information as early as possible!



Give us a "Like" and be Entered for a \$50 Gift Card

Thank you to everyone that has given us some love on Facebook! We appreciate you! We are fast approaching our 3000 "Likes" contest drawing. If you haven't already, then give us a like and be included. Winner will receive a \$50 visa gift certificate.

In addition to special contests, each month we randomly select a profile that has liked our [Facebook Page](#). That person/company receives an awesome "thank you" package from us! So, go ahead and give us a "like" **YOU MAY BE OUR NEXT WINNER!** February's awardee is **Matthew Sisty from Adrian, MI.**

New Features Updates

By the Dev Team

[NEW FEATURES: March 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: January 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: December 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURE: November 2018](#)



Platinum Announces New National Sales Director

Jeff Dykstra, MBA, SSGB

Platinum Educational Group is pleased to announce the addition of Jeff Dykstra as National Sales Director. Mr. Dykstra's past professional experience ensures he will be a strong leader and solid contributor to the success and growth of Platinum. Jeff brings a vast knowledge of sales, leadership, and business development. Welcome aboard, Jeff!

[Jeff Dykstra LinkedIn Profile](#)



Platinum Announces New Customer Service Advocate

Beatrice Alegria

Not only did we onboard a new Sales Director, but we also added a new Customer Support Advocate! Platinum Educational Group is pleased to announce the addition of Beatrice "Bea" Alegria to our Customer Support Team! Ms. Alegria brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in providing top-notch customer support. She is also fluent in Spanish, so Bienvenido a bordo (welcome aboard), Bea!

[Beatrice Alegria LinkedIn Profile](#)



Platinum Announces Promotion

Korben Rand

We certainly are movers and shakers for the first part of 2019! In addition to are new employees, Platinum Educational Group is pleased to announce the promotion of Korban Rand to Data Scientist! For the past year, Korben has been a stellar performer in our Customer Support Team. Soon, his focus will turn to compiling, analyzing, and compartmentalizing industry statistics and information that will help us better serve our valued customers. Congrats on the promotion, Korben!

[Korban Rand LinkedIn Profile](#)

EMSTESTING.COM

Platinum Educational Group Solutions for EMS Training Programs

Top Five Reasons to Use EMSTesting

- True Computer Adaptive Testing Practice that mimics the NREMT exam format!
- Most Validated Solution Available! Over 160,000,000 responses to date!
- Over 5,000 validated questions in our test bank; with questions at all provider levels!
- Group Testing feature turns learning into a fun game!
- EMSTesting can be used with any EMS textbook, regardless of publisher!

Join the hundreds of other programs that have adopted our solutions to make their EMR-EMT-AEMT-Paramedic program run as smoothly as possible! We offer the most reliable and valid testing on the market via [EMSTesting](#). We provide the only Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT) testing prep program that mimics the National Registry Exam! We will help your program raise your pass rates and we offer a [100% guarantee*](#) to back that!

"We certainly are enjoying having EMSTesting as part of our arsenal for our student's success." - Randy Spies, EMS Program Coordinator, Blue Ridge Community & Technical College

Easy Demo Scheduling!

PLATINUMPLANNER.COM

Top Five Reasons to Use PlatinumPlanner

- Provides students with a FREE mobile app that works both online and offline!
- Accreditation Standards! Meets/Exceeds what accrediting bodies are looking for!
- Customizable to meet YOUR program specific needs!
- Track the skills YOU want, download forms that YOU want to use!
- There is NO Institutional fee!

In addition to testing, we also provide a complete skills tracking, scheduling and reporting solution called [PlatinumPlanner](#). This flexible program tracks schedules, skills, and patient encounters. It assists in clinicals, labs, and scenario experiences. It generates reports for student progress, accreditation standards, and [NREMT Portfolio requirements](#)! Platinum Planner also offers free preceptor training - something our competitors do not!

Do not waste time tracking your students with paper and pencil! We have an easier and more cost-effective solution!

The best part, Platinum Planner has NO INSTITUTIONAL FEE! There is just a nominal student fee.

"Platinum Planner has made my life much easier and I really appreciate that. So glad that I took the leap and tried your product! What a difference it is making in our Paramedic Program! Highly recommend!" - Toni Milan, Director EMS Education, Respond Right EMS Academy

Easy Demo Scheduling!



Platinum's Program Directors Advisory Committee - One Year Later

Become a Part of the Group

By Doug Smith, CEO, Medical Educator

On January 22, 2018 Platinum held its first Program Director Advisory Committee meeting. The purpose of this committee is to advise Platinum on how to make our platforms more beneficial to our users as well as providing a sounding board for changes. The inaugural meeting addressed age ranges for pediatric populations. As a result of this meeting we arrived at a uniform age range but also allowed the ability for the school administrator to set their own age ranges.

[Read Full Article](#)



Testing Features of EMSTesting

By Tom Gottschalk, COO, Medical Educator

When taking computer-based (instructor made) exams and computer adaptive tests (CAT), there are several unique features students can utilize that have great potential to improve the testing experience for both students and teachers. I wanted to take a few minutes of your day to tell you about them.

[Read Full Article](#)

The Scholarly Column: Blooms Taxonomy - Why should I incorporate this model into



my teaching methods?

By Regina M. Sportsman, RMA, CMA (AAMA), BA, MM, MBA

In 1948, psychologist Benjamin Bloom, along with his peers, created Bloom's Taxonomy.

- Taxonomy is a classification into ordered categories.
- Eponyms is word based on or derived from a person's name.

[Read Full Article](#)



You're A Master of What? My Take on Degrees for Paramedics

By Tom Latosek, MS, NRP, CCP-C

As I was sitting at work one day discussing going back to school, someone turned to me and said, "you went to college?". My answer seemed to shock them when I informed them that I went to college and then to graduate school. Their reply was a very sarcastic "so you have a master's degree and you're working as a paramedic?" The reason why seemed to surprise them. Over the past few weeks I have been following the current debate over whether or not paramedics should have a degree and I figured I would give you my take on the subject from the perspective of a paramedic who had a degree going into paramedicine.

[Read Full Article](#)

Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[3/7/19 to 3/9/19, Traverse City, MI SMEMSIC 80th Professional Development Conference](#)

[All PEG Events!](#)



News From Our Allies in Education

Every month we feature a key news snippet or other information from our allies in EMS Education. If you would like to connect and see how we can collaborate, [contact us!](#)



New Annual Report Tool Now Available

The new Annual Report tool is based on a calendar year and data reported will be reflective of data for the graduates and events occurring in the calendar year of the report. **The first Annual Report using the new tool will be based on the calendar year of 2017 and will be due by March 15, 2019.** [More details](#)



2019 NAEMSE Board of Directors - Call for Nominations

Now is your chance to take a leadership role in leading the National Association of EMS Educators, which is dedicated to furthering the profession of EMS education! Five (5) Board of Director positions are open for election in 2019. This is a 3 year commitment commencing at the general Membership Meeting at the Annual Symposium & Trade Show in Fort Worth, Texas — August 2019. [Learn More](#)



EMS On the Hill Day

This year's program will include:

- The latest information on implementation of the new ET3 payment opportunity, and cost data collection.
- A status report on the DEA's implementation of the new law on standing orders and an update on EMS drug shortages.
- Details of new EMS legislation and how it can impact you and your agency.
- Meetings with your House Representative and Senators.

[More details](#)



IC CME Credits Available.

- Great List of Speakers and Presentations.
- Exhibition Area with EMS Vendors.
- Network with EMS Professionals.

[More details](#)



Ask the Customer Support Team

By David Smith, Customer Service Advocate

Q: In EMSTesting, is it possible to throw out a test question after a test has been administered? A: Yes! To throw out a question from a test after it has been administered, begin by making sure your role is set to "Instructor", then click on your class, and then select "View Gradebook".

[Read Full Article!](#)

[Read past Q&A!](#)

"Amazing customer and tech support. Just started using this semester and they have made the transition very simple!" - Jimmy Stevens, EMS Education Program Director, Delgado Community College



Learn How Platinum Planner is Slaying Appendix G Changes

Platinum Educational Group is Proud to Present an Exclusive Appendix G/Portfolio Webinar Series. There is only one left! We hope you can attend.

- [March 20, 2019 from 4 to 5 p.m. \(EST\) Registration](#)

These webinars will dive into how specifically Platinum Planner will face the upcoming Appendix G challenges. It is expected that the participant will have either attended an Appendix G update provided by Platinum Educational Group or have watched one the latest recorded webinar on Appendix G by Gordy Kokx that can be found at the [CoA website](#). It is also recommended the participant already has a basic understanding of the function of Platinum Planner.



Does your Program need Student Access Cards or Credit?

By John Zimmer, Client Relations Manager

Many programs still need to gain EMSTesting or Platinum Planner student access. There are three ways students can gain access into our programs:

1. EMS programs can purchase student access credit or cards directly through Platinum Educational Group; then the students reimburse through tuition or lab costs.
2. Students can purchase access cards through their institutions' bookstores.
3. Students can purchase access from our websites directly (EMSTesting, PlatinumPlanner, PlatinumTests) using their own credit/debit cards.

If you need student access for either EMSTesting, PlatinumTests or Platinum Planner, contact **John Zimmer** at 616-490-5395 or email [EMAIL](#).

If your annual license ends soon, please renew prior to expiration to avoid an interruption in service. If you have questions about your license renewal, contact **John Zimmer** at [EMAIL](#).

Customer Showcase: Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute

Every Month we give a shout out to one of our valued customers! This month we celebrate the awesome folks at Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute.



The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute of the University of Maryland is the state's comprehensive training and education system for the emergency services. The Institute plans, researches, develops, and delivers quality programs to enhance the ability of emergency service providers to protect life, the environment, and property.

The Institute has more than 80 years of experience in providing training to protect the citizens of Maryland.

Over four hundred certified instructors serving as part-time faculty support more than fifty full-time faculty and staff members. MFRI prides itself in its ability to present courses which meet our customer's needs, whether it is accomplished through site specific, mobile training at a customer's facility, or at any one of MFRI's training centers throughout the State of Maryland. The College Park Headquarters training facility and the five Regional Training Centers all have classroom and live fire-training facilities. Each training center has assorted props and equipment necessary to conduct courses such as confined space training, hazardous materials training, forcible entry training, and fall protection training among others.

A huge thank you to the entire hard-working staff at MFRI. We appreciate you being one of our valued customers!

[Click Here to Learn More about MFRI!](#)