



PLATINUM
EDUCATIONAL GROUP

January 2023

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The **Platinum Educational Group** newsletter is dedicated to Allied Health 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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Happy New Year!

Happy New Year from the Platinum Educational team! The key word is happy! We want you to be happy. Our positive nature, dedicated customer service, excellent EMS education software, and medical education expertise can make us a great partner for you and your program! We genuinely want the best for your program and work with you to ensure you are happy with our solutions. If you are transitioning over from another company or if you are a brand new client, we are in this for the long hall and our results can solidify it.

We have more than 75 years of combined competency tracking, clinical scheduling, and compliance reporting expertise. We have online solutions to make your lives, and your students' lives, much easier via PlatinumPlanner.com for competency tracking and clinical rotations. We also have an amazing new feature called [AccredAssist®](#) lite to help your SER go smoothly **EVERY** year!

It is NOT too late for you to utilize our electronic competency tracking platform, [Platinum Planner](#), even if your current course has started! We make it easy—ALL OF IT!

To all you educators out there—thank you from all of us at Platinum.



Who is Platinum Educational Group, Exactly?

who we are and what we do!

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

We are staunch advocates for the highest degree of training for all Allied Health programs. **We are proud to boast the best, and most cost-efficient, competency tracking, scheduling, and compliance reporting for each Allied Health profession.**

***Factoid—Since 2015, We have delivered over 500 new features and updates for our customers, many at their request!**

Our Mission: Deliver valid & reliable testing, assessment, scheduling, competency tracking, & compliance reporting solutions.

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



Message from Platinum CEO: Keep Building Success and Improving

By Jason Jensen, CEO, of Platinum Educational Group

In 2022, Platinum Educational Group had a successful year, and we hope you did too! I wanted to take just a moment to let you know about our successes. For our online testing platforms, [EMSTesting.com](#) and [PlatinumTests.com](#), we updated our content, successfully kept our online content secure, and took care of many new customers while making sure the needs of our current customers were met and exceeded. As for our online competency tracking and student scheduling platform, [PlatinumPlanner.com](#), we made sure it was compliant for the SMC 2023 changes **a full year in advance** for our EMS customers, expanded the platform to include [many more Allied Health disciplines](#), and developed many new features and benefits—many at our customers' requests. Specifically for program accreditation needs, we developed [AccredAssist®](#) lite to meet the needs of our Allied Health and Nursing customers' needs and tweaked AccredAssist® for our EMS customers.

We will continue that recipe for success with three main factors. First, we will continue to develop needed and useful solutions to meet the ever-changing needs of EMS, Allied Health, and Nursing training programs. Second, we will continue to listen to our customers by modifying, adding features and benefits, and making our existing solutions the easiest and most understandable. Finally, we will continue to provide, and even improve, **our industry-leading customer service and support**. We understand that we are nothing without our valued customers!

If you are a current Platinum Educational Group customer, then we thank you for allowing us to be a part of your education process. If you are not, we encourage you to check us out and see why so many EMS, Allied Health, and Nursing programs utilize our solutions. **Thank you and have a wonderful 2023!**



Pricing Change Notification Reminder

Effective July 1, 2023

Platinum Educational Group has not had a price increase since 2018, however, our pricing schedule will increase **slightly** in 2023. These increases will not affect training institutional fees, but student fees will see a **nominal** change. We do our best to not do price increases to our valued customers, but at times it is unavoidable.

[Read Full Article](#)



Allied Health Programs Desire Competency Tracking at an AFFORDABLE Cost. Good News—it's Here!

The number one "objective" that we hear most frequently is that Allied Health programs desire a transition to an online competency/clinical tracking and scheduling/rotation platform in a cost-effective manner. Well, good news...**WE HAVE THE SOLUTION FOR YOU!**

What Do We Offer?

We have worked very hard to produce a platform that will meet ALL of your needs and then some! Not only is keeping track of your students' competencies, case requirements, clinicals, and externship easy on your end, but we also provide a FREE student app that works online and offline for your pupils to utilize! We offer FREE customer support to admin, instructors, students, preceptors, and any other of our end users! 100% free, 100% of the time!

CURRENT Supported Professions

[ANESTHESIA TECHNOLOGY](#)

[DENTAL HYGIENE](#)

[MEDICAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT](#)

[MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN](#)

[OPHTHALMIC MEDICAL TECHNICIAN](#)

[PHLEBOTOMY](#)

[RESPIRATORY CARE](#)

[SURGICAL ASSISTANT](#)

[CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNICIAN](#)

[DIALYSIS TECHNICIAN](#)

[MEDICAL ASSISTANT](#)

[OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY](#)

[PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN](#)

[PRE-CLINICAL](#)

[SPEECH-LANGUAGE](#)

[SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY](#)

[DENTAL ASSISTANT](#)

[EKG TECHNICIAN](#)

[MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE](#)

[OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT](#)

[PHARMACY TECHNICIAN](#)

[RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY](#)

[STERILE PROCESSING](#)

[VETERINARY TECHNICIAN/NURSING](#)

What is the Cost?

There is **NO Institutional fee** to incorporate [Platinum Planner](#) into your program, only a one-time nominal per-student fee with several different payment options!! There are so many more benefits to Platinum Planner. We would be honored to show you! Finally, YOU can have an affordable electronic competency/clinical tracking system!

Stop wasting time tracking your students with paper and pencil or excel! We have an easier and more cost-effective solution!

Top 10 Reasons to Use [PlatinumPlanner.com](#)

“We are happy with the software. I have quite a few new adjunct faculty this semester and they have all described how easy to use and intuitive Platinum Planner has been to learn and manage. We have used other software in the past, but we really love the fact that Platinum Planner puts the student in control of their documentation and holds them accountable. This is a tremendous

time saving for our instructors, who in the past, had to manually enter all documentation. The software is cost-effective, easy to maneuver, and accessible from any device – we love that!” Marybeth Cregger, Coordinator of Clinical Education, Respiratory Therapy, Illinois Central College (IL)

Schedule a free demo of Platinum Planner on YOUR time!

SCHEDULE A DEMO



Submit an Article!

Do you have a knack for writing good articles? Do you have an awesome article you have written in the past that you would like to showcase? Do you have a blog?

If you said yes to any of these, then we want you!

We are currently looking for quality Allied Health content to be featured in our monthly newsletter and social media platforms! Maybe you want to submit just one article, a few, or be a consistent contributor—all of these are great! Contributors will receive a “thank you” package from us (Gift Card, Platinum Swag) as well as some great exposure to your content and expertise!

If you would like to submit an article for consideration, [Click Here!](#) Not only will you get some exposure, but we will also send you some awesome Allied Health swag!!



The American Diabetes Association’s 2022 Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes Update

In 2022, the ADA revised nearly all the sections in the Standards of Care, including recommendations for:

- diabetes screening
- diagnosis, prevention, evaluation, and management of comorbidities
- patient education
- technology and glycemic assessment
- weight management
- care for special populations, such as children and older people
- screening for diabetes

All adults without risk factors should be screened with a test for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes starting at age 35, instead of age 45. The new Standards of Care also emphasizes screening with a fasting glucose test for undiagnosed diabetes in all women who are planning to become pregnant, especially if they have risk factors. For unplanned pregnancies, women should be screened at the first prenatal visit. The recommendation to screen for gestational diabetes between 24 and 28 weeks has not changed.

[Read Full Article](#)

New Year, New Custom Form Sharing Feature!

Alanah Manning, Project Specialist, Platinum Educational Group

Platinum Educational Group has added an exciting new feature that now allows you to share your custom forms with other Platinum Planner users. This can be done in 2 ways: sharing a direct link to a copy of your form with another individual or sharing the form globally for any Platinum Planner customer to use.



[Read Full Article](#)



Add Form Scores to Skills

Development Team, Platinum Educational Group

PlatinumPlanner.com provides online scheduling, skill tracking, and reporting. It's designed to bring students, teachers, schools, and clinical sites together for hands-on training and real-life experience. Platinum Planner has an easy-to-use companion app for existing users. Students and preceptors can complete documentation from anywhere!

An Instructor Role can check on a preceptor or student.

[Read Full Article](#)



Reference Checks: Building Questions that Get Actual Answers

By Levi Perkins, Corporate Screening

Checking candidate references has been a formal part of the hiring process for a while, but it's more than just a formality. When you take steps to conduct references, you get more perspectives about a candidate and additional information to help you make a well-informed hiring decision.

The Importance of Reference Checks

Checking references provides you with additional views of a candidate's experiences and capability beyond what the candidate has told you during the interview process. Considering that candidates sometimes embellish or misrepresent their background and experience, obtaining the views of individuals who have worked with a candidate can help you uncover the truth and avoid making a bad hire.

[Read Full Article](#)



Episode 50: Know The Rules! Physical Safeguards

By Kimberley Shuttters, Software Quality Validation Engineer

In this week's "Know The Rules," I am sharing details about the Physical Safeguards of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Security Standards.

An important step in protecting electronic protected health information (ePHI) is to implement reasonable and appropriate physical safeguards for information systems and related equipment

and facilities.

The HIPAA Security Rule defines Physical Safeguards as:

"Physical measures, policies and procedures to protect a Covered Entities and Business Associates electronic information systems

and related buildings and equipment, from natural and environmental hazards, and unauthorized intrusion.”

[Read Full Article](#)



From the Customer Support Team

Q: I get a lot of emails from Platinum, is there any way to filter those out?

A: Platinum Planner sends emails to customers when different actions have taken place in the system. For example, students submit an opportunity for review by their instructor. This will trigger an email to be sent to the instructor. We understand that many customers would like to control the type of emails they receive, but that feature is not available at this time. However, you can set up filters in your email, so that Platinum emails are sifted out into their own folder. So you can access them when needed.

[Read Full Details](#)

“I love this software program! It has been so helpful in my surgical technology program for tracking and completing skills evaluations. They are constantly making updates based on feedback from users and I highly recommend this product for any health professions program! The staff is wonderful and always available to answer questions.” Janice Grewatz, Surgical Technology Program Director, Parkland College (IL)

Staff Updates - What is new at Platinum?

We have exciting news on the Platinum team! Please see the details below on a few amazing employees and their new roles within the company.



John Spencer, COO

John Spencer accepted a promotion to Chief Operations Officer of Platinum Educational Group in December 2022. He previously served in many leadership positions, including Field Training Officer, Field Supervisor, Operations Manager, Education Coordinator, and Director of Education. John is an alumnus of Grand Canyon University. He earned a Bachelor of Health Science in Professional Development and Advanced Patient Care, a Master of Business Administration, and a Master of Science in Leadership. John is passionate about servant leadership and believes serving others is key to advancing professionalism in education, healthcare, and business. Outside work, John enjoys spending time with his family and serves as a member of his church's security and medical response teams.



Sherry Kinnucan, Director of Education

Our new Director of Education is Sherry Kinnucan. Sherry has been with Platinum Educational Group since October 2019 in the role of Lead Trainer/Medical Educator and was instrumental in the development of the AccredAssist tool. Before joining Platinum Educational Group, Sherry served as a seasoned Paramedic/Instructor Coordinator in critical Emergency Medical Service roles at the state and local levels. With medical education and problem-solving as a driving passion, Sherry earned her Master of Arts degree in Higher Education Leadership from Siena Heights University. Sherry is committed to achieving only the highest quality within the teamwork she cultivates and the product outcomes her team delivers. When not at work, Sherry loves spending time with family, and enjoys music, relaxing with a walk in nature, or casting a line from a fishing pole.

Sarah Smith, Product Manager



Sarah joined Platinum Educational Group in 2015 as part of the Customer Support Team. Over the years she has also been a member of the Training Team and the Testing Team. In her new role as Product Manager, she hopes to continue to use her expertise in our products to improve the overall customer experience for those who use our solutions. In her free time, Sarah enjoys all sorts of creative endeavors, such as painting, knitting, and crafting a rug out of old t-shirts that has taken WAY longer than expected to finish.

News from Our Allies in Education

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



New Submission Requirements

New! The following program applications can now be completed online through the membership portal.

[More Information](#)



Beginning in 2023, CAAHEP will host two new events!

The CAAHEP Symposium is scheduled for January, and in July a CAAHEP Accreditation Workshop. These events will be open to many of our communities of interest. More information to follow.

[More Information](#)



Customer Showcase: Monroe College (NY)

Every month we give a little bit of love to one of our valued customers! This month we celebrate the awesome **Surgical Technology Staff at Monroe College (NY)**.

From the first day in 1933 that the Jerome family opened the doors to the institution now known as Monroe College, we have been helping students and their families achieve their educational goals and begin their journey to career success.

Named for U.S. President James Monroe, the "Monroe School of Business" opened in 1933 under the guidance of teacher Mildred King with just four small classrooms and seven students in the West Farms section of the Bronx. Nearly nine decades later, we are proud to continue to call the Bronx "home" and to be led by her descendants. Monroe celebrates its 50th anniversary in 1983 as the New Rochelle campus opens in the heart of Westchester County. This growth leads to expansions at both the Bronx and New Rochelle campuses, now home to more than 8,000 students from the U.S. and 93 foreign countries.

The surgery program will give students amazing opportunities for their futures. The Associate Degree in Surgical Technology is led by certified surgical technologists that want to see you succeed. Within the surgical tech major, students gain the opportunity to combine the knowledge of human anatomy and physiology with expertise in the theory and application of aseptic techniques, instrumentation, and surgical procedures. Through an engaging curriculum that affords the opportunity for hands-on learning within a state-of-the-art surgical suite, you work alongside faculty and students to maximize patient care.

We want to thank them for their trust in our solutions, their trust in our customer service, and their trust in our reputation to provide the highest quality of both!

Keep you Laughing



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