



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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Family and Football and Turkey. Oh my!

You may have seen the "Christmas Spirit" in all the retail stores, but remember, we must still get through November! Which is great because this month is full of awesomeness! Some of the great things offered this month include a "fall back" of the clock, autumn football, and a special day to give thanks!

We are grateful and thankful to ALL of you hardworking EMS educators, instructors, coordinators, providers, and support personnel!

The Staff 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.**

"Platinum Educational Group is always ahead of the ever changing game!" - Dr. Kelly Weller Ed.D, RN, LP EMS-C, Program Director EMS, Lone Star College - Montgomery

"From the Program Directors side of the coin, they are great people to work with and very responsive!" - Scott Kaminski, Public Safety Program Coordinator, Lorain County JVS

Factoid: We have delivered over 230 new features to our customers, many at their request, since 2015!

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.

We're Growing! New Additions to Platinum Educational Group



Kate Szumski, Client Solutions Consultant Kate recently joined Platinum Educational Group in 2019. Kate has over 6 years of software sales experience within the IT industry. As a proud Michigan State University Alumni and West Michigan native, Kate spent the majority of her career in Chicago and is happy to be back home in Grand Rapids, MI! In her spare time she enjoys watching college basketball, spending time with family, and walking her Golden Doodle, Bogie.



Alanah Manning, Customer Support Advocate Alanah joined Platinum Educational Group as a Customer Service Advocate in October 2019. She has worked many years in customer service and sales industries. She is driven in providing excellent customer service with a spotlight on quality and making customer connections. When she is not working, she enjoys crocheting and crafting, playing with her menagerie of pets, and spending time with her husband.



Sherry Kinnucan, Lead Trainer, Medical Educator Sherry joined Platinum Educational Group in 2019 and brings over 17 years' experience in Emergency Medical Services including initial and continuing education, quality improvement and program coordination. Sherry is currently working on completing her Masters of Arts degree in Higher Education Leadership and enjoys camping, fishing, bird watching, reading, and spending time with her husband and four children.



Celebration Week's Giveaway Winners Announced

Last month we gave away several prize packages.

Last month contained celebrations of several allied health professions including Resp Care, Med Assist, Vet Tech! Educators, providers, students, and support staff had the opportunity to win a gift boxes filled with swag including travel mugs, key chains, bracelets, and more! The rules were easy, participants were asked to simply like our Facebook Page and pinned posts. That's it

A huge congratulations to our drawing winners Ann Hall, Christine Sperle, and Sierra Bell! We have contests for folks in the industries we serve all year long on all of our social media outlets. **Be sure to like or follow our social media platforms to get information on upcoming giveaways and contests.**

In addition to special contests, each month we randomly select a profile that has liked our [Fan 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! October's awardee is **Jordan Ginebaugh from Casnovia, MI!**

New Features Updates

By the Dev Team

[NEW FEATURES: October 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: September 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: August 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: July 2019](#)

EMSTESTING.COM

Platinum Educational Group Solutions for EMS Training Programs

Top Five Reasons to Use EMSTesting

- True Computer Adaptive Testing Practice that mimics the format of the National Registry exam!
- Most Validated Solution available, over 160,000,000 responses to date!
- Over 5,000 question test bank; with questions FOR 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!

"My paramedic program started using EMSTesting.com in 2013 and I have to say that it is the best testing platform that I have experienced in my 15 years as an educator. The students that graduate from our program are well prepared for the national exam. We just started using the solution for my EMT program and our pass rate has improved greatly!" - Rob Dowling, Director of EMS, Franciscan Health Crown Point

Easy Demo Scheduling!

PLATINUMPLANNER.COM

Top Five Reasons to Use PlatinumPlanner

- Ready for Appendix G changes since July 2018!
- Accreditation Standards! Meets/Exceeds what accrediting bodies are looking for!
- Customizable to meet YOUR program specific needs!
- Provides students with a FREE mobile app that works both online and offline!
- There is NO Institutional fee just a competitive nominal per-student 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](#), and the recent [CoAEMSP Appendix G](#) changes! **Platinum Planner also offers free preceptor training - something our competitors do not!**

Do not waste time tracking your students with paper and pencil! Stop paying more for inferior software! We have an easier and more cost-effective clinical tracking solution!

"Our training coordinator unexpectedly had to go out for several months on extended sick leave and I had to take over some of the tasks. It had been several years since I had worked extensively in Platinum Planner. When I called with questions, they were able to walk me through over the phone. Great Customer Support!" - Diane Koch, EMS Specialist, Yakima County Emergency Medical Services

Easy Demo Scheduling!



Level 4 Results on EMSTesting

By Eric Cheadle, Customer Support Manager

When adding a test to a class, or editing test settings for a class, you have an option of what level of results to give your students. Level 4 gives all levels including Overall Score, Extended Review, Curriculum Breakdown Review, and finally the Full Question/Answer/Annotation review. The level 4 portion (Full Question/Answer/Annotation review) is great for going over tests with students but could cause issues if implemented in the wrong way. We recommend unchecking the 'show results immediately' button if using level 4 results from the get-go. If this is checked it is possible for one student to end early and have the ability to share correct answers with other students. If 'show results immediately' is not checked, it will only show them the level 4 results once the test end date/time has passed. Another option is to have it on level 1-3 results, then change it to level 4 results once you want your students to see level 4.

[Read Full Article](#)



Platinum Educational Group Customer Support Team: Excellence Personified

By Tom Gottschalk, COO, Medical Educator

If we asked our customers ten years ago what they envisioned Platinum Educational Group as, they would have likely had two perspectives. The first was that there were these two guys (Doug and Tom) who owned and operated a software company in the Midwest. The other point of view was that Platinum was this big testing company in Michigan, who had a corporate structure and whose goal was to take over the world. Who was right? The first group for sure. Up until 2012, Platinum was literally a two-man show being powered by trusted advisors, contractors, and excellent customers, which much like friends can do, have driven us to where we are today.

[Read Full Article](#)



The Scholarly Column: Accreditation vs. Non-Accreditation

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

I have been working in higher education for ten years. Nine of those years, all of the medical assisting programs that I have worked for have been accredited. In the last ten months I have worked with a medical assisting program that is non-accredited. There are recognizable differences in student learning styles. I can attribute this to the fact that there are no competencies that are required in the curriculum.

[Read Full Article](#)

Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[11/24/19-11/27/19, Fort Worth, Texas - Texas EMS](#)

[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!](#)



Site Visitor Workshop to be Held at ACCREDITCON 2020

The CoAEMSP is increasing its site visitor cadre and is seeking Paramedic educators and physicians to become site visitors for CoAEMSP. The training workshop will be conveniently hosted in conjunction with ACCREDITCON, May 27-31, 2020, in

Louisville, for those applicants who have been selected to be site visitors. [More details](#)



EMS 3.0 Workshop

Join us, Tuesday, March 24, 2020 in Arlington, VA! Get the latest information on EMS reimbursement including cost collection and the implementation of the CMS ET3 Model. Learn how to expand the healthcare services your agency provides to your community using sustainable economic modeling and best practices from agencies across the country. Registration opens October 14, 2019. [More Details](#).

[More details](#)



National Registry Reaches All Time High for Nationally Certified EMS Professionals

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians recently announced that more than 400,000 EMS professionals are currently nationally certified at the EMR, EMT, AEMT or Paramedic level – the highest amount in the 48 year history of National EMS Certification.

[More details](#)



Inspiring Educational Excellence (IE2) Logo Contest

In recognition of our new mission statement, "Inspiring Educational Excellence," NAEMSE is having a logo contest! Flex your artistic muscles and send in your original logo(s) incorporating the three words "Inspiring Educational Excellence" and you could win a FREE registration for the 2020 NAEMSE Educators Symposium!

[More details](#)



VerifyStudents Announces Drug Screening Enhancements

VerifyStudents by Corporate Screening is proud to offer a convenient, mobile-friendly and paperless drug screening solution. Now, we're pleased to announce several NEW enhancements to our drug screening solution. Customers now have access to student drug screening statuses with the Drug Screening Instance History feature. The feature displays all milestones and timestamped action histories for your drug screening orders.

We're also pleased to offer the availability of approximately 4,500 more drug test collection sites to our network. With thousands of sites across the nation, your students have more options than ever.

[Read Full Article!](#)



Ask the Customer Support Team

Q: Why can my students no longer 'begin documentation' on a field internship opportunity? A: Due to CoA requirements, all skills (lab, clinical, scenario & pathologies) must be completed before any field internship documentation can be started/completed.

[Read Full Article!](#)

"The best thing about this group is the customer service. All of my questions have been answered within 30 min to an hour. The Help box with frequently asked questions is also nice and I've been able to use it without calling in. Keep up the great work Platinum Group!" - Jenifer Goodson, EMS Instructor, East Central College (MO)



Learn How Platinum Planner is Slaying Appendix G Changes

The Appendix G deadline has passed and the changes from CoAEMSP are in full effect! We want to make sure all educators are organized and prepared. We believe our software is the most equipped to help you be just that!

This prerecorded webinar will dive into how specifically Platinum Planner faces the upcoming Appendix G challenges. It is recommended that reviewers will have already watched a taped 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 or similar software.

If you have **ANY** questions about the upcoming Appendix G changes or how we can help your program be best prepared, contact us. We

are here to help!

1 Hour Recorded Platinum Planner/Appendix G Webinar ([Watch Now](#))



Prices Effective July 1, 2020

Our pricing schedule will increase **slightly** in 2020. These increases will not affect training institutions, but students will see a **nominal** change. The increase is being done for several reasons including:

- To continue providing our customers with the **most up-to-date technology and software** programming.
- To continue providing our customers with the **most experienced customer support and programming staff**. To date, our customer support has an **industry-leading 97% satisfaction rate** and the **shortest average call back time** to students and instructors.
- To keep pace with inflation and fair market value. Even after this upcoming increase, **Platinum Educational Group is still under its competitors' prices** while offering more benefits, services, solutions, and overall value.

[Read Full Article!](#)



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](#).

Leaving You Laughing

By Steve Barry

