



## Industry Information for EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health Educators and Administrators!

This newsletter is dedicated to instructors, administrators, and providers of EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health professions. As always, **if you have any questions** concerning anything in this edition of the *Platinum Pulse*, feel free to reach out to us at <https://platinumed.zendesk.com> and a representative will contact you.

In this edition:

1. Celebrating National EMS and Nurses Week!
2. Easy Facebook Contests for EMS and Nurse Professionals!
3. Annual Scholarships Information!
4. Registration for FREE Platinum Educational Group Workshops!
5. Update in Platinum Planner App!
6. Featured Article: Integrity. The Crucial Characteristic.
7. What's REALLY behind a NCLEX 100% Pass Rate Guarantee?
8. Learning from Failure.
9. Update on NAEMSE's Brandon Ciampaglia.
10. And Much More!

National EMS Week



May 21-27, 2017



Nursing: The Balance of  
Mind, Body, and Spirit

This month we celebrate not one, but TWO, underappreciated yet gravely needed professions, EMS and Nursing. Let's face it, most of our jobs can be thankless at times. But, how many of us can say that we, as employees, are **needed**? Well, medical professionals can! They are the ones that we count on in emergency situations. The ones that are trained to be calm in chaos. The ones

that take care of us and our loved ones. So, let's give colleagues in EMS and Nursing a thank you and if you are not in a medical professional role, then thank someone who is!

[National EMS Week!](#)

[National Nurses Week!](#)



**As our way of thanking the professionals in those fields, we are giving away 2 Olive Garden Gift Cards!** All EMS and Nursing professionals can go to our [Facebook Fan Page](#) and let us know how long you have been involved with your industry. Simple and Easy! One winner will be randomly selected from each at the end of May. GOOD LUCK!

## Universal Announcements

Who is Platinum Educational Group, exactly?



As Platinum Educational Group continues to broaden their solutions for healthcare professions, as well as inform our new followers, 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, Allied Health, and Nursing fields. **We are proud to boast the best study prep and skills tracking programs for each.**

**"Platinum Ed has been a partner since we started the accreditation process. They are responsive to questions and concerns on both the Planner side and EMS testing. Several requests for changes have been incorporated by them at our suggestions. Great group to work with." - Mark Self, Executive Director, Pee Dee Regional EMS**

**Factoid:** We have delivered over 120 features to our customers, many at their request, in the last 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.



## Have you heard about our Scholarships Program?

**\$1000 Awards for EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health**

If you have not yet heard of the annual Platinum Educational Group Scholarships Program, let me tell you more about why we offer it!

Platinum Educational Group has always had a compassionate core. The two co-founders, Doug Smith and Tom Gottschalk, both have Paramedic backgrounds and know what struggles students and educators in the EMS world face. In 2015, Platinum developed an inaugural scholarships program to help "give back". The goal was to help offset EMS student's education costs. Just two years later we expanded our program to include Allied Health and Nursing students as well! We look forward too many years of providing these important awards and even expanding them in the future. We, as an entire organization, are PROUD and HONORED to reward those who are dedicating their lives to a career in the medical field.

**We hope you pass our scholarship information along to your students because we care about them.**

Visit the link below to learn more about our scholarships program, download application for your students, view past winners, and instructions to distribute the information!

[Click Here for Full Details!](#)

**THE 2017 PLATINUM EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP SERIES**

## Don't Miss Out On Free Workshops!!

Platinum Educational Group is **offering a workshop series like no other!** We have a variety of FREE educational workshops available throughout the country! **There is no cost for participants to attend workshops, lunch and snacks are**

**provided, and CE credits can be earned!** Please see below for scheduled workshops. If there are no workshops in your area, stay tuned, as more will be scheduled soon! Spaces fill up quickly so register today!

Thursday May 4, Lewiston, ME [Recipe for Success](#)

Friday May 5, Lewiston, ME [The Poor Man's Guide to Moulage](#) and [The Patient is Loaded for Transport. Now What?](#)

Tuesday May 30, Clinton Township, MI [The Poor Man's Guide to Moulage](#)

Wednesday May 31, Clinton Township, MI [Recipe for Success](#)

Thursday June 1, Cleveland, OH [Recipe for Success, Portfolio Update and Implementation](#)

Thursday June 8, Kansas City, MO [Recipe for Success](#)

Friday June 9, Kansas City, MO [The Poor Man's Guide to Moulage](#)

Friday/Saturday August 18 - 19, Higgins Lake, MI [7th Annual Higgins Lake Retreat for Michigan IC/Educators](#)

Prices Effective July 1, 2017



In 2016, we took satisfaction in providing new and exciting features exclusively for our valued clients to utilize! Some of those included:

[Full Article and 2017 Price Guide](#)

## New Feature: Platinum Planner Mobile App 2.0 Release

Platinum Educational Group is proud to release Version 2.0 of the Platinum Planner mobile app for the Google Play store and Apple Store. **We have addressed syncing issues that may have occurred for some users in the past.**

Version 2.0 has added features, UI/UX updates, and major speed improvements in syncing and updating data.

[Full Details](#)

## The EMS Eagle



### Top 5 Reasons to Use EMSTesting

- True Computer Adaptive Testing Practice!
- Most Validated Solution Available! Over 100,000,000 responses to date!
- Over 5,000 validated questions in our test bank!
- 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!

*"Our paramedic program hit 100% first time NREMT pass rates last year (21 students) thanks in part to the utilization of EMSTesting." - Justin Yurong, EMS Educator*



[View the 90 Second Intro to EMSTesting Video!](#)



### Top 5 Reasons to Use PlatinumPlanner

- Provides students with a FREE mobile app!
- Accreditation Standards! Meets/Exceeds what accrediting bodies are looking for!
- Totally customizable to meet YOUR program specific needs!
- Track the skills YOU want, download forms that YOU want to use!
- FREE to your institution to use!

In addition to testing, we also provide a complete skills tracking, scheduling and reporting solution called [PlatinumPlanner.com](#). 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!

*"Platinum Planner has been the key to managing multiple programs in an organized and concise manner. We cannot imagine running multiple simultaneous EMT Training programs without the streamlined precision and organizational CRM of the Platinum Planner system. Bravo! - Aki Williams, COO, Defib This - Emergency Rescue Training*

[Contact us](#) today for more information or free product demo for either EMSTesting or Platinum Planner!



[View the 90 Second Intro to Platinum Planner Video!](#)



## Integrity - The Crucial Characteristic

By Doug Smith, CEO, Medical Educator

Imagine a scene where you are a seasoned practitioner who is at home with your 6-year-old daughter experiences an asthma attack. She has a history of this occurring but your spouse is out refilling the prescription and you have used the only dose available with no real improvement. You call the local EMS agency who sends a crew to your location with your expectation is they will bring a nebulized breathing treatment to correct the bronchospasms. The crew who arrives is made up of a paramedic and basic EMT. Unknown to you is that this paramedic obtained his license through cheating on his tests to get through the program and obtain his licensure.

[Read Full Article](#)



## CoAEMSP Compliant Preceptor Training Made Easy

Did you know that preceptor training can be managed directly from Platinum Planner? It's true! It has a feature that allows Schools to customize their own Preceptor Training! In addition, schools and teachers can review, auto-grade the test, and approve each preceptor's training as well as see completion dates. Preceptors are able to start their training right from their home page on Platinum Planner! They will also be able to upload documents while completing their training. We've made preceptor training super easy! **Check it out!**

[Read Full Article](#)

PLATINUM PLANNER



## Speaking of Preceptors...

Among our new features in the Platinum Planner app is the added role of preceptors! We have added full support for preceptors including:

- Preceptor Training
- Preceptor Student Documentation Review/Completion
- Preceptor Messaging
- Preceptor Calendar Sync Option

[Read Full Article](#)

## Upcoming Events for EMS

### Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[5/9/17 to 5/10/17, Coronado, CA - EMSAAC Conference](#)

[5/22/17 to 5/23/17, Columbus, OH - Ohio EMS Conference](#)

[5/31/17 to 6/1/17, Uncasville, CT - Connecticut EMS Expo](#)

[All PEG Events!](#)



by Steve Berry  
[iamnotanambulancedriver.com](http://iamnotanambulancedriver.com)



## News from NAEMSE

Every month we will feature a key news snippet or other information from the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE).

NREMT and NAEMSE have partnered to bring a new educational opportunity entitled Scenario Evaluation Workshop. This is a free workshop designed to provide you with hands-on experience developing formative and summative scenarios for use in your classroom.

This workshop will be limited to 50 participants who will be guided through the scenario development process by NREMT staff. Topics that will be covered are scenario writing, calibration, and evaluation in the workshop. Scenarios created in the workshop will be available for use following the event. Here are a few of our upcoming events for this workshop:

- [Friday, May 19 \(Indianapolis, Indiana\)](#)
- [Saturday, June 3 \(Texas City, Texas\)](#)



## Ask the Customer Support Team

**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!](#)

***Customer Support:** Any issue I've ever had has been easily and QUICKLY resolved. VERY much appreciated from a EMT/ AEMT Coordinator with little time to devote to fixing things. THANK YOU! ~ Eric McCullough, EMT & AEMT Coordinator, Asst Professor*

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## Nursing News



### Platinum Tests

The Game Changing NCLEX-RN® Testing Prep with true online Computer Adaptive Testing that mimics the NCLEX-RN® Exam!

We know it is hard work preparing students for the NCLEX-RN® exam! Students are gathering questions from banks and finding prep questions wherever they can: books, the Internet, school resources. Although there are good classroom review materials, there is nothing that actually mimics the NCLEX-RN® exam. **UNTIL NOW!**

**What are the benefits for your students?**

PlatinumTests is organized exactly like the NCLEX-RN® exam and is the only computer adaptive testing (CAT) simulator on the market. For only \$80, candidates have access to more than 3,000 up-to-date questions written by experts in Nursing. PlatinumTests contains the most thorough breakdown of NCLEX-RN® questions into test plan concepts. That is more than any other question bank on the market today!

PlatinumTests is a simple system for students to utilize. They have unlimited access to as many tests as they want, for as long as they want - all for one low price! It also provides them with post-test results and analysis so they have clarification of their strengths and weaknesses!

		Exceptional (All Key Indicators Met)	Good (Two Key Indicators Met)	Not Good (One Key Indicator Met)	Fail (No 1)	
	Curriculum Level	Indicators Met	Percentile	Score	Difficulty	Questions
1	Safe and Effective Care Environment	2	99	80%	0.55	50
1.1	Management of Care	2	78	71%	0.55	24
1.1.3	Case Management	0	18	56%	0.55	9
1.1.4	Client Rights	0	1	0%	0.55	1
1.1.4.1	Recognize client right to refuse treatment/procedures	0	1	0%	0.55	1

Students will never again doubt whether they practiced enough or chose the right topics to study! PlatinumTests is truly the adaptive experience students are searching for to effectively and accurately gauge if they can pass the NCLEX-RN® exam!

### Why should my program incorporate PlatinumTests into the curriculum?

Not only are your students provided with the benefits listed above, but there are many reasons to support PlatinumTests in your courses work as well. First, your students will be afforded the institution enrolled cost of \$80 versus the \$120 they would have to pay for a non participating school. Second, PlatinumTests gives instructors the ability to build their own tests based on Nursing curriculum. They can also view, analyze, and compare test results in our online grade book. Plus, along with comparing other students in the class or by national averages, instructors can view "Cut Score" averages, "Raw Score" averages, "KR20", "Confidence Scores" and see most requested objectives for discussion. Finally, and most exciting to many, schools have access to our [Group Testing](#) feature for their classroom. Group Testing is the fun way to bring your class together to test and review their knowledge in a stress-free gaming fashion!

[Contact us](#) today for more information or free product demo of PlatinumTests!

*\*Some of this content was utilized from independent reviewer, Kevin Pan, from [www.kevinsreview.com](http://www.kevinsreview.com).*



## Platinum Planner - Skills Tracking and Scheduling for your Nursing Curriculum!

We have heard for years what a nightmare it is for Nursing programs to keep track of their student's externships. That's why we have developed a skills tracking and scheduling program that will take care of it all for you - **easily!**

### Top 5 Reasons to have Platinum Planner for YOUR Nursing Program:

1. **Save Time and Money - No Cost for Institutions to Use!**
2. **Easiest and Most Flexible** Platform for Scheduling, Skills Tracking, and Reporting!
3. **Compliant to Accrediting Agencies!**
4. **FREE Student App** with all the **Features of the Full Website!**
5. **FREE Customer Support** for Admin, Instructors, Students, and Preceptors!

If you are using another online system, then you are paying too much! **Platinum Planner costs nothing for nursing programs** to utilize! There is just a minimal per student fee.

Interested in knowing more about Platinum Planner? We would **LOVE** to show you how we stack up against our competitors. What do you have to lose? [Contact us for a free demo!](#)

## What's REALLY behind a NCLEX 100% Pass Rate Guarantee?

By Jeremy Johnson, Director of Marketing

You hear it often.



"100% Pass Guarantee!"  
 "Satisfaction or a Full Refund!"  
 "100% Money Back Guarantee!"

These words are important to consumers because they want to be assured a product/service will actually work. Usually, that item is assisting them in achieving something very important. Conversely, it is also important to the provider of a product/service because they believe in their effectiveness. That is not always the case, but we will explore that further in this article.

[Full Article](#)  
[View our Guarantee!](#)



## ATTENTION: Student Associations - Try Group Testing for your next NCLEX-RN® Competition!

No longer do you have to have "run of the mill" NCLEX-RN® events! Nursing students have a BLAST learning via Platinum Educational Group's "[Group Testing](#)" feature! This online quizzing platform is setup like the trivia based quizzing that is popular in restaurants across the country. **We even provide prizes for the top 3 participants!** If you would like to learn how [Group Testing](#) can benefit your annual conference [CONTACT US](#) and we are more than happy to show you!

## Upcoming Events for Nursing

### Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[10/7/17 to 10/8/17, Chicago, IL - Student Nurses' Association of Illinois](#)

[All PEG Events!](#)

**LOOKING FOR STATE LPN CONFERENCES! Do you know of a LPN/LVN conference** that we simply CANNOT miss? Please [drop us a line](#) and let us know! **We'll even send you a thank you gift!**

### About a Nurse



*"You mentioned that new nurses shouldn't be afraid to ask questions, so I have a few. I hope you have a few hours to spare."*

## Allied Health Advance



## Allied Health Instructors! Dispose of Your Excel Spreadsheets in 2017!

Free yourself of the shackles and restraints of Excel Spreadsheets and other time consuming recording methods! [Platinum Planner](#) now offers a Clinical Scheduling and Skills Tracking solution for all healthcare training institutions. We have a great team of professional educators, software developers, and a customer support team who work closely with instructors and administrators. The best part is, just like for EMS, Platinum Planner is **free for all allied health and nursing institutions to use**. There is just a nominal per student fee.

It is time to **put those excel sheets away** and let Platinum Planner help you with the complicated task of scheduling and skills tracking. [Contact us](#) today for a 30-minute demo!

## New Online Skills Tracking Platform for Vet Tech Programs!



Exciting news for ALL Veterinary Tech programs! **NOW** is the time to look at [Platinum Planner](#) for keeping track of your student's skills and scheduling. If you give us 30 minutes of your time to provide you a demo of Platinum Planner, we will automatically send you a \$5 Starbucks gift card!

### Top 5 Reasons for my Vet Tech Program to Utilize Platinum Planner

- No Cost for Institutions to Use!
- Easiest and Most Flexible Platform to fit Vet Tech Needs!
- Get Student Progress and Site Visit Reports in Seconds!
- FREE Unlimited Training Support for Instructors
- FREE Customer Support for all users: Admin, Instructors, Students, and Preceptors!

Platinum Planner is the best solution for complicated Vet Tech skills tracking AND includes a [FREE student mobile app](#). **Schedule your demo and receive promo by [CLICKING HERE!](#)**



[View the 90 Second Overview!](#)



## The Latest on ACICS Saga: More Fallout from ACICS Loss of Recognition - SEVP Removes Grace Period

By Jay Vaughan, Mike B. Goldstein and Paul Thompson (Cooley LLP)

Reversing its earlier position, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) has announced that schools accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) will not have 18-months to obtain accreditation from another accreditor recognized by the US Department of Education to maintain SEVP certification.

[Full Article!](#)

\*If your institution has any questions concerning accrediting, please feel free to reach out to us at any time. We are here to help you.

## Upcoming Events for Allied Health

### Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[6/7/17 to 6/10/17, New Orleans, LA, AST's Surgical Technology Conference](#)

[8/1/17 to 8/4/17, Albuquerque, NM, AVTE 2017 Symposium](#)

[All PEG Events!](#)

**Do you know of a Allied Health conference** that we simply CANNOT miss? [drop us a line](#) and let us know! **We'll even send you a thank you gift!**



by Crazy RXMan [Blog](#)

## Parting Thoughts

### Learning from Failure

By John Zimmer, Client Relations Manager



As the Client Relations Manager at Platinum, I contact each of our clients at least four times per year, to offer assistance and to ensure our clients are enjoying our software. During these conversations in 2015-17, some of our clients indicated they will not renew their annual licenses to use our software, due to site or EMS program closures, from financial issues, political, or other reasons. In 2017, so far three clients in three states, explained their EMS educational programs were directed to another institution, as theirs were closed or closing. Although not said specifically, my impression was the EMS educational program had failed for two of them.

As I was researching why EMS programs fail, I ran across an article that offers hope for EMS failures.\* The article was written by Chris Cebollero in November 2015, and it offers advice for a mindset change of embracing the failure to learn from it and to move on. The article focuses on growing from the experience and applying learned lessons to the next situation, to succeed. As a very brief summary, according to Cebollero, there are five steps for accepting and moving on from failure:

- 1. Understand failure is not personal**
- 2. Learn from mistakes**
- 3. Let it go**
- 4. Don't be judged**
- 5. Embrace the human**

Although the article title refers to EMS Failures, it is obvious that the advice can be applied to any aspect of life, not just an EMS failure, including career changes, relationship challenges, poor decisions, etc. I recommend reading the article and applying its advice to your personal and EMS lives.

[Read Chris Cebollero's EMS1 Article!](#)



## SKILLSUSA: CHAMPIONS AT WORK

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. It was formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America).

[SkillsUSA Michigan information!](#)

Last month, the Michigan Chapters held their annual competition for First Aid/CPR. Platinum's own COO, Tom Gottschalk, was part of the festivities. Tom was First responder/CPR committee chair and lead judge for the written and hands on skills competition. Contestants performed a variety of tasks including (but not limited to):

1. First Aid/CPR/AED for the adult, child, infant
2. Burns
3. Sprains
4. Wound care
5. Heart attacks

This year's event was held at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids, MI. All judges, event coordinators, and workers were on a volunteer basis. Kudos to the Student Competitors and Event Volunteers!



## Platinum Educational Group Sales Territory Realignment

Due to the recent addition of our Sales Team, our territory map has changed slightly. Please go to our [contact us](#) page on our website to find the Platinum Educational Group sale representative in your state! As always, you can reach out to **ANY** team member at Platinum and we will get you to the right person! We look forward to serving you in 2017!

## Appreciation Corner

May Spotlight: Brandon Ciampaglia (NAEMSE Communications Coordinator)



As many of you know, Brandon and his family were in a very bad car accident in early April. Brandon, his wife Maureen, and their four-day-old newborn son were making their first journey home as family when they were involved in multi-car accident that left both Brandon and his wife in Intensive Care and their baby in serious condition at the children's hospital. [View News Story](#).

**Update 4/20/17 per Joann Freil (NAEMSE Executive Director):** "I am happy to share the news with you that Brandon and his wife Maureen have been released from the hospital to home care. They are improving every day thanks to the medical attention they received on the scene from our City of Pittsburgh EMS providers and from the medical team at Mercy Hospital. Their son is still hospitalized but improving daily. Thank you all for your concern, loving cards and letters to the NAEMSE office for Brandon and family. Thank you for contributing to the GOFUNDME site for Brandon and his family. Blessings to you all!"

Good news indeed! But, they still have a road to recovery. If you can contribute to the [GOFUNDME page set up for Brandon](#) and his family, it would be appreciated.



## 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.

As Spring/Summer classes start, 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](#).