



**PLATINUM**  
EDUCATIONAL GROUP

MAY 2020

## 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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### Celebrating Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM)

This month we celebrate an extremely important event—BHSM. A special thank you to our Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, and supporting roles for each. They are the folks that help with communication disorders and improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding, or hearing. So, from all of us at Platinum Educational Group, **THANK YOU!**

**SEE OUR GIVEAWAY FOR BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH IN THIS NEWSLETTER! WE APPRECIATE YOU!**



### 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 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.

**"Great company with great products! They care about the customer." -John Gosford, Education Manager**

**\*Factoid: We have delivered over 300 new features and updates for our customers, many at their request, since 2015!**

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

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



## Message from the CEO

### **Caring During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Canceling 2020 Price Increases**

Platinum Educational Group occasionally has a slight price increase to our online solutions. We do the increases for a few important reasons. (See the link below for more details)

However, as a company that has a customer base solely of health professional training institutions, we truly know the struggles you are facing. During this extremely unique and challenging economic environment we find ourselves in, we have come to the decision collectively and unanimously, **to cancel any price increases**

for 2020.

[More Details](#)



## Progressive Teaching: Flipping the Switch

Brand New Workshop Series for 2020! Six National Locations

Join us for an exciting new workshop series for 2020! Progressive Teaching: Flipping the Switch is a highly interactive workshop designed to assist participants on "flipping the classroom" by focusing the learning experience with the student. The concepts of scaffolding and bookending will play a critical role as participants learn to develop cases and teaching/formative scenarios to prepare students. Participants will be strongly encouraged to bring laptops and course textbooks. All Workshops include:

- 16 CE Hours or Professional Development Credit! (If applicable)
- Coffee, Lunch & Snacks Included!
- \$100 Credit to the Attendee's Platinum Educational Group School/Program Account\* (for current customers)
- All participants will receive a free disinfectant spray!
- Engaging for ALL Healthcare Professions and Educators!

There are additional benefits, giveaways, and free evening group events for individual locations! The six US dates and locations are:

[Read Full Article](#)



## Did You Hear...

### **What your peers are saying about us?**

Find out what others are saying about our online solutions **AND speak with a real Program Director that utilize our solutions!**

[More Details](#)

They're Ba-ack!! (Not Poltergeists, Thankfully!) Platinum's Annual



## Scholarships for 2020 are NOW Available!

**Do not let your students miss this \$1000 opportunity Deadline 6/1/2020**

Of course, they're back! It's an annual scholarship program! We are going on our 6th year of providing a \$1000 award to a student in each of the following professions: EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health. To date, we have awarded \$14,000 in scholarship awards to deserving students across the country!

We have had more interest this year than ever before. Well, the 2020 scholarship packet is now available! Click the link below for full details!

[Scholarship Information for EMS, Nursing, and Allied Health Students](#)



## Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM) Facebook Contest! Win some AWESOME BHSM Swag!!

This month's Facebook contest is a celebration of BHSM 2020! **YOU could win a gift box filled with BHSM goodies** including a SLP 18 oz. Glass Bottle w/Sleeve, SLP Crosshatch Nonwoven Cooler Bag, SLP Heathered Sticky Memo Pad Box, SLP Graphic Stylus Pen and the SLP ID Wallet!! The rules are simple! **Go to our [Facebook Page](#), hit that PAGE like button, go to the comment box marked "BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH GIVEAWAY", like the post and share it. That's it!!!**

Winners will be announced on 5/29/20. **Personnel in SLP and Audiology--don't miss out!!**

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!** May's awardee is **Elana Cohen from Potomac, Maryland!**



## 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!**

**WANTED!**

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, please contact [Director of Marketing](#), Jeremy M. Johnson, today!**

## Top 10 Reasons to use Platinum Planner for YOUR Clinical Tracking



1. No Institutional Fee
2. Our online platform saves Coordinators/Instructors an average of **5 hours or more a week**
3. Makes accreditation **site visits easy and stress-free** with detailed reports
4. Provides detailed **student progress reports**
5. FREE fully functional student/preceptor **app** that works online or offline
6. Easy to set up and get started

7. FREE **Unlimited Training** for all Administrators, Program Directors, and Instructors
8. FREE **Unlimited Customer Support** for Administration, Instructors, Coordinators, Students, and Preceptors
9. Better prepared students to match the work force
10. Don't just take our word for it, see what others say about Platinum Planner! [View our Testimonials](#)

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

**"I was tired of tracking externship with paper and pencil. A health science colleague from my college recommended Platinum Planner. It has made tracking externship hours and required skills so much easier for both instructors and students. Because I have this tool, I get updated daily so I can conference with students who seemed to be falling behind. Platinum Planner is an amazing product and I wish we would have started using this earlier." - Zulihana Pascual, Director of Dental Assisting Technology, Indian River State College**

Schedule a short demo of Platinum Planner on **YOUR** time!

Easy Demo Scheduling!



## COVID-19, Allergies and Asthma - Know the Difference!

By Linda Gibson-Young, PhD, ARNP, Auburn School of Nursing

### Understanding the difference between seasonal allergies, influenza, and COVID-19 symptoms

As an asthma researcher, we are often speaking about key signs for recognizing and diagnosing child asthma. Many times, asthma and allergies share similar symptoms and work hand in hand. With the uncertainties in healthcare today, the public is questioning the difference.

Seasonal allergies result from exposure to allergens or triggers. Allergens vary from person to person and this time of year seasonal allergies are flourishing. Allergy symptoms include sneezing, itchy or watery eyes, bloodshot eyes, and runny nose. If a person has asthma, then we might note a cough, but this is typically dry and non-productive. A fever is not a symptom of allergies or asthma.

[Read Full Article](#)



## Online Learning Mullet-ology

By Crystal Eaker, MSN, RN, Central Piedmont Community College

Hearing the word "mullet" may bring back nostalgic memories of celebrities, songs, and movies from the 80s. But, according to fashion magazines like Glamour and Elle, the mullet could be making a comeback in 2020. You may not be ready to take the leap into getting a mullet, but there are some key principles of online learning that we can consider from this hairstyle. We could discuss methodology in online learning, but let's have some fun and learn key principles of online learning while referencing the traditional mullet hairstyle.

[Read Full Article](#)



## Should Employers Still Be Testing for Marijuana Use?

By Kevin Neudecker, Recruiter.com

For many organizations, drug screening is a critical component of hiring and talent management. Drug screening can happen in a variety of situations: before hire, on a random basis, after a workplace accident, or when there is suspicion of abuse.

Until recently, drug screening seemed a clear-cut process: Testing positive for illegal substances, including marijuana, was typically grounds for adverse or corrective action. However, as more states legalize marijuana for medicinal and recreational use, there are significant implications for the workplace, including how organizations design and execute drug screening programs.

[Read Full Article](#)



## The Scholarly Column: What Do We as Educators Do During a Pandemic?

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

We are only in a few weeks of what the feeling of the worldwide pandemic has done to us as people, as family members, as friends, as colleagues, and as educators. What do we do? This is a hard call because this pandemic has no names, no color, no gender, no one is exempt.

This is what happened in my world here in Virginia. The week of March 17<sup>th</sup>, we had to go around to all of our students and get them to sign online agreements, and for those that were already staying at home, we had to email them the forms and have them agree on getting distance education.

[Read Full Article](#)

## Upcoming Events for Allied Health

None scheduled at this time

[All PEG Events!](#)

**We are looking for State and National Allied Health conferences for 2020!** Do you know of any that we simply CANNOT miss? Please [drop us a line](#) and let us know! **We'll even send you a thank you gift!**



## Ask the Customer Support Team

**Q: Will Platinum Planner competency tracking platform work with the accrediting agency overseeing my program?** A: Yes! Platinum Planner works with all the different accrediting agencies including ARC/STSA, CAAHEP, ABHES, CoARC, AVTE, ACEN, CCNE, and more! Accreditation Agencies LOVE to see programs utilizing an electronic system. It makes EVERYONE'S job easier in becoming accredited, with onsite visits, and with educational standards.

**"The best thing about this group is the customer service. All of my questions have been answered within 30 minutes. 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)**

## 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, [contact us!](#)



### WANTED - Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)

AMCA's Subject Matter Experts complete a wide range of projects and tasks that contribute to certification program and exam development. SMEs have a deep understanding of the profession they are representing and provide knowledge and expertise for that specific area.

[More Information](#)



### Notice of Commissioner Election and Appointments

This Notice of Elections and Appointments from the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) is for four commissioner seats to be elected by the membership and two commissioner seats to be appointed by the Commission. All terms are for 3 years beginning on July 1, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2023.

[More Information](#)



### CAAHEP CoA Summer Workshop

The CAAHEP Summer Workshop is open to staff and leaders of the Committees on Accreditation. The CAAHEP Board of Directors also attend this meeting. 2020 CAAHEP CoA Summer Workshop will be held at the B Ocean Resort, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 17-18, 2020.

[More Information](#)



## VerifyStudents Announces Drug Screening Enhancements

VerifyStudents by [Corporate Screening](#) is pleased to announce the completely redesigned [ImmuniTrax™ immunization compliance management system](#). Powered by Medicat, a leader in college health electronic health records, the new ImmuniTrax<sup>®</sup> eliminates the need for an RDP connection with a cloud-based, secure and easy-to-use immunization tracking solution.

[Read Full Article!](#)



## Customer Showcase: Robeson Community College

Every Month we give a little bit of love to one of our valued customers! This month we celebrate the awesome surgical tech education staff at Robeson Community College.

Robeson Community College provides opportunities for academic, technical, and life-long learning in a collaborative culture dedicated to inquiry, results, and excellence.

The community college movement expanded into Robeson County with the establishment of an extension unit of a nearby technical institute in 1965. The unit was established at the Barker Ten-Mile Elementary School seven miles north of Lumberton. Twenty full-time curriculum students enrolled the first year.

Commitment of RCC to its students and the citizenry of Robeson County was seen with the excellent reports of various auditing agencies in the state. There are currently 189 carefully selected full-time RCC employees who now serve RCC, which represents a figure of almost 30 times as many as when the College first opened its doors in 1965 with six full-time employees. Another 292 part-time personnel teach and provide services to the student body on an annual basis.

The RCC Surgical Technology curriculum prepares individuals to assist in the care of the surgical patient in the operating room and to function as a member of the surgical team. Students apply theoretical knowledge to the care of patients undergoing surgery and develop skills necessary to prepare supplies, equipment, and instruments; maintain aseptic conditions; prepare patients for surgery and assist surgeons during operations.

**We want to thank the awesome RCC Surgical Technology staff for their trust in our solutions, our customer service, and our reputation to provide the highest quality of both!**