



PLATINUM
EDUCATIONAL GROUP

MAY 2020

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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EMS and Nursing Celebrations

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.

Currently, many of these health professionals are on the front line of the Coronavirus pandemic risking their well-being to help others. For your sacrifice, courage, and your dedication to your profession, **we sincerely thank you!**

This month let's give colleagues, friends, loved ones, or even complete strangers in the EMS and Nursing industries a "thank you" and show them our appreciation. In May, Platinum Educational Group is having special recognition coin giveaways for those folks in the EMS and nursing fields. Please see our Facebook contest in this newsletter for more details.

Until things return to normal, we hope you all stay safe and healthy.



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 testing 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

Factoid: We have delivered over 300 new features to 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](#)



Platinum Educational Group Offering Secure High Stakes Exams at Low Cost (Non-Proctored)

Presents non-customers an opportunity for a one-time delivery of necessary exams

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some programs are finding it difficult to administer their high-stakes final exams to their students. In-person testing via paper and pencil may no longer be an option and with proctored areas closing, or having limited available space, we would like to let you know about an alternative using EMSTesting.com. Our secure testing platform includes the use of [Respondus Lockdown Browser](#) for the administration of secure exams. Respondus is a powerful browser lockdown tool that our customers have access to at no extra charge.

There is never a requirement for a live proctor with EMSTesting.com.

[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](#)



Facebook Contests! Celebrating EMS and Nursing Professionals!

We're giving away 5 EMS and 5 Nursing Recognition Coins!

This month we are giving away a total of 10 professional recognition coins in celebration of our EMS and nursing educators, providers, and students! Simply go to our [Facebook Page](#), "like" the pinned post **and our page**, and put your profession (EMS or Nursing) in the pinned comment box. **That's it!** 5 EMS and 5 nursing healthcare professionals will be randomly drawn to win these awesome coins!

PLEASE, only folks in the EMS and Nursing Professions. Drawing to be held 5/29/2020.



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 Gohen from Potomac, Maryland!**

New Features Updates

By the Dev Team

[NEW FEATURES: January 2020](#)

[NEW FEATURES: December 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: November 2019](#)

[NEW FEATURES: October 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 184,000,000 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 Platinum Planner

- Easiest platform to record Appendix G competencies
- Meets/Exceeds Accreditation Standards
- Customizable platform to meet YOUR program specific needs
- Provides students with a complimentary companion mobile app
- 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!



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 17th, 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](#)



The Ethics of PPE and EMS in the COVID-19 Era

By Brian J Maguire, Dr.PH, MSA, EMT-P, Kirsty Shearer, John McKeown, MA, Scot Phelps, JD, MPH, Daniel R. Gerard, MS, RN, NRP, Kathleen A. Handal, MD, Paul Maniscalco, PhD(c), MPA, MS, EMT/P, LP and Barbara J. O'Neill, PhD, RN

These are trying times for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this article, we discuss two critical areas of concern. First, we articulate the ethical challenges EMS personnel face in the absence of having proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and offer some guidance on how to frame their decisions.

[Read Full Article](#)

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!](#)



CoAEMSP Annual Report Now Due June 30

The CoAEMSP has extended the deadline for Annual Reports to June 30, 2020, because the health and safety of our volunteers, educators, and students is our top priority. When reports are not submitted on time, additional work is incurred by staff & work that can be prevented. Remember, submit on or before June 30!

[More details](#)



NAEMT Annual Meeting Week September 14-18, 2020, Las Vegas, NV (During EMSWorld Expo)

NAEMT Annual Meeting events are free to NAEMT members and offer a tremendous opportunity to learn, engage and enjoy! NAEMT members are encouraged to attend all open association meetings, such as the NAEMT Board meeting and Committee meetings. During the meeting, we will celebrate our EMS profession at the General Membership Meeting, where we'll recap the year's activities, present future goals, and recognize the outstanding recipients of the National EMS Awards of Excellence. Immediately following the awards presentation, NAEMT members are welcome to attend the popular Member Reception.

[More details](#)



National Registry Celebrates its 50th anniversary

The National Registry, established in 1970 as a non-profit organization, is the Nation's Emergency Medical Services Certification organization. The mission of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians has always been centered on protecting the public and advancing the EMS profession.

[More details](#)



Upcoming NAEMSE Courses

To view and register for any of our scheduled events, please [click here](#) to view the course roster on our website, or visit our Facebook page for a list of events. We hope to see you at one of our courses!



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[®] eliminates the need for an RDP connection with a cloud-based, secure and easy-to-use immunization tracking solution.

[Read Full Article!](#)

Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

None scheduled at this time



Ask the Customer Support Team

Q: Did you know that we have a Platform Testing Department? A: Platinum Educational Group has been around for nearly 2 decades. With that in mind, we strive to always make our software solutions that are exceptional for the end-user. When a customer reaches out to us and says something on the site doesn't work, we investigate the issue and attempt to resolve it. If the solution is unknown, we send the issue to our Testing Department.

[Read Full Article!](#)

"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)



Customer Showcase: Pueblo Community College (PCC)

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

Pueblo Community College transforms lives, enriches communities, and strengthens the regional economy by empowering individual achievement through a continuum of education.

Pueblo Community College recently became a new EMSTesting.com and PlatinumPlanner.com customer! PCC's EMS program will prepare you to enter the field of emergency medicine. They offer three levels of EMS education, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT), and Paramedic.

The PCC EMS faculty are all experienced advanced level EMS providers who have worked in many different EMS agencies both urban and rural. This gives their programs a depth of knowledge and experience. Their instructors also have many years of EMS education experience and are great at helping students in the classroom and clinical setting. The program medical director has received commendation from the Committee of Accreditation for EMS program site visitors for providing an exceptional level of physician student interaction in the paramedic program.

The EMS program at Pueblo Community College has up to date equipment and facilities. This includes a simulator lab with high tech manikins for real to life simulations in baby delivery and care, patient assessment and treatment. There is also an ambulance simulator for practice in packaging, moving and caring for patients in an ambulance environment.

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

Leaving You Laughing

