



## Industry Information for EMS Instructors, Educators, Administrators, Preceptors, and Students

This newsletter is dedicated to instructors, administrators, and providers of the EMS profession. As always, **if you have any questions** concerning anything in this edition of the *Platinum Pulse*, feel free to reach out to us anytime by [clicking here](#) and a representative will contact you.

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### Ho, Ho, Ho? Not so Fast

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

**Factoid:** We have delivered over 180 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.



## Only 1 NAEMSE Workshop Series Left

Platinum Educational Group & NAEMSE have partnered to bring you a new educational opportunity entitled **Improving Your EMS Techniques Workshop**. This is a **2-Day** workshop designed to improve your education/training process and techniques through hands-on experience. The last workshop offered in 2018 is:

**Location:** Reno, Nevada  
**Dates:** 11/9/2018 to 11/10/2018  
**Time:** 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST

[Full Details and Registration!](#)



## Five Big Things in October

### What Has Platinum Been Up To?

Each month we are going to keep you up to date on important updates to our software, the big projects we have been tackling, and our community involvement. So, for the month of October.

[Read Full Article!](#)



## Challenge Coin Giveaway Contest Results

This October we gave away five Challenge Coins! YES, FIVE.

These lucky winners snagged one of these awesome coins for themselves.

In addition to special contests, each month we randomly select a profile that has liked our [Company 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 **James Thomsen Jr. from Saugerties, New York.**

## New Features Updates

By the Dev Team

[NEW FEATURE: October 28, 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURE: October 7, 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURES: September 2018](#)

[NEW FEATURES: August 2018](#)



**Platinum Educational Group Solutions for EMS Training Programs**

### Top Five Reasons to Use EMSTesting

- True Computer Adaptive Testing Practice that mimics the National Registry exam!
- Most Validated Solution Available! Over 150,000,000 responses to date!
- Over 5,000 validated questions in our test bank; with questions at four provider levels--EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic!
- 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!

***"Amazing customer and tech support. Just started using this semester and they have made the transition very simple!" - Jimmy Stevens, EMS Education Program Director, Delgado Community College***

Easy Demo Scheduling!



### Top Five Reasons to Use PlatinumPlanner

- Provides students with a FREE mobile app that works both online and offline!
- 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!
- There is NO Institutional 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](#)! Platinum Planner also offers free preceptor training - something our competitors do not!

**Do not waste time tracking your students with paper and pencil! We have an easier and more cost-effective solution!**

The best part, Platinum Planner has NO INSTITUTIONAL FEE! There is just a nominal student fee.

***"Excellent easy to use software that is an asset to any educational program." - Mark Boisclair, Public Safety & EMS Lead Instructor, Chattahoochee Valley Community College***

Easy Demo Scheduling!



## Changing the Political Climate to Recognize First Responders

By Allison G. S. Knox, Contributor, EDM Digest

First responders are a vital component of all levels of emergency management. Without these people, basic emergency management functions could not occur. Considering the mass casualty bombings and [active shooter incidents](#) of the past few years, it is first responders who take command of these incidents and manage the scene immediately. First responders are essential to emergency management.

[Read Full Article](#)



## Formative vs. Summative Evaluation

By Tom Gottschalk, COO, Medical Educator

Skydiving training like medical education can be intense at times. Both have learning objectives associated with them, and big consequences if the skills are not mastered before execution in the real world. I cannot think of two better examples to reinforce our understanding of Formative vs. Summative evaluation.

[Read Full Article](#)

## The Scholarly Column: Is There Any Value in Giving Homework?

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



As education is evolving we must consider whether educational institutions should require the administering of homework. The earliest concept of homework was developed in Venice by an instructor named Roberto Nevellis in 1905. This was around the same time that formal education was beginning to form. This was primarily a practice that was in European countries and not yet adopted in the United States (US). The US did not adopt this practice until the 1940's. Albeit times have changed the need to be able to manage one's time effectively outside the classroom is still a discussion that many educators grapple over on a daily basis.

[Read Full Article](#)



## Providers vs. Leaders: Trend report reveals divide on issues of safety, fatigue, mental health

By Art Hsieh, Paramedic Program Director, Santa Rosa Junior College

We often talk about family in EMS, and no wonder: the 800,000 EMS providers in the United States comprise a small community when compared to [firefighters](#) (1.2 million), [law enforcement](#) (1.1 million), or [nurses](#) (2.9 million). EMS folks are a special breed, often toiling under long working hours, for low or no wages, providing medical response to all segments of society, regardless of status or economics. Members of the EMS family spend precious time away from their other families, during nights, weekends and holidays. And they do this without fanfare and with little notice from the public.

[Read Full Article](#)



## How to Best Utilize EMSTesting: Part Two of a Ten Part Series- Assessment (Entrance) Testing

By Jeremy Johnson, Director of Marketing

"Learning is not a grade. Get the focus off the grade. Focus on progress, on critical thinking, on creativity." - Roman Nowak

Make no mistake about it assessment testing is important! It's a sound decision for Program Directors to use assessment testing to save time and money. Entrance exams can measure a person's knowledge in certain areas and can provide very useful information. Educators can utilize the data gathered from assessment testing to infer several generic, yet invaluable, concepts.

[Read Full Article](#)

## Upcoming Conferences & Expos!

[11/18/18 to 11/21/18, Fort Worth, TX – Texas EMS Conference](#)

[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!](#)



### Announcing the Accreditation Conference by CoAEMSP

Not your typical EMS conference, ACCREDITCON is designed to be the comprehensive collaborative that offers every necessary resource for achieving accreditation success! ACCREDITCON is the most valuable investment you can make for the success of your educational program! [More details](#)



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMS EDUCATORS ANNOUNCES 2019-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

**Pittsburgh, PA (June 18, 2018)** – The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE), the association representing the practice of EMS education released their 3 year Strategic Plan for FY 2019-2021. The Association, whose mission is "Inspiring Educational Excellence", has committed to focus its efforts on four significant areas of growth that will have a lasting, positive educational impact on the pre-hospital environment. [Learn More](#)



## FAEMSE Scholarship Applications Are Now Being Accepted

Deadline for the January (2019) meeting (Fire Rescue East - Daytona Beach, Florida) will be midnight, December 1st, 2018. To find more information and to apply for these awards, please click [HERE](#). Those who are considered for each award must be nominated by an individual and have contributed letters of recommendation from their colleagues and students.



## Ask the Customer Support Team

By David Smith, Customer Service Advocate

**Q: When creating a class in Platinum Planner, what is the difference between a "Lecture" class, a "Lab" class, and a "Lab and Lecture" class?** A: **Lecture classes** are primarily created to block off when students are supposed to be in class for lecture. When creating a Lecture class there is a tab called "Schedule". This tab will let you select which days of the week class takes place, the location where class will occur on that day, and when class begins and ends on that day.

**Lab** classes allow you to set lab skill requirements for students. For that particular class you can decide which skills that have been activated for the course can be tracked for lab sessions associated with this class and what the minimum requirements are to complete the class. You can also assign individual instructors to the class, which will determine who has the ability to create individual lab sessions and who can review student lab documentation.

[Read Full Article!](#)

[Read past Q&A!](#)

*"The best thing about this group is the customer service. All of my questions have been answered within 30 min to an hour. Keep up the great work Platinum Group!" -Jenifer Goodson, EMS Administrator/Instructor, East Central College*

## Attend an Exclusive Appendix G Workshop by Platinum

Platinum Educational Group is Proud to Present an Exclusive Appendix G/Portfolio Workshop Series! There are 3 Locations to choose from:

- [November 13 - Hanceville, AL](#)
- [November 15 - Altamonte Springs \(Orlando\), FL](#)
- [December 6 - Sacramento, CA](#)

**No Cost to Attend! Lunch, Snacks, Refreshments, and 6 CE Credits Included! Seating is limited and fill up quickly, so register today!**



## 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 to 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](#).