

A photograph of two female students sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The student on the left is wearing a red and white plaid shirt and red-rimmed glasses. The student on the right is wearing a grey sweater and red headphones. They are both smiling and looking at the laptop screen. In the background, another student is partially visible.

WHY ENROLL IN A SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR (SHSM) AT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL?

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a specialized program approved by the Ministry of Education that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

These programs enable students to gain sector specific skills and knowledge in engaging, career related learning environments, and prepare in a focused way for graduation and postsecondary education, training or employment.

5 SHSM PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Together, these requirements provide the curriculum based and experiential learning experiences for making a successful transition to a student's chosen pathway.

- Bundle of Gr. 11 & 12 Courses
- Certifications
- Reach Ahead Opportunities
- Cooperative Education
- Sector Specific Partnered Experiences in Math, Coding or ICE (Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship)



KEY BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

Pursuing a SHSM enables students to:

- Customize their secondary school education to suit their interests and talents
- Develop specialized knowledge and skills that are valued by the sector and postsecondary education institutions
- Earn credits that are recognized by the sector and postsecondary education institutions
- Acquire sector specific and career relevant certification and training
- Gain confidence in their knowledge of the SHSM Sector
- Identify, explore and refine their career goals and make informed decisions about their postsecondary destination
- Remain flexible, with the option to shift between pathways

For more information contact your Guidance Counsellor or visit Ontario.ca/SHSM