

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

SHSM

YOUR SKILLS,
YOUR FUTURE.



Hamilton-Wentworth
Catholic District School Board

Believing. Achieving. Serving.

What is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

The Specialist High Skills Major program is a ministry-approved specialized program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements to graduate from secondary school. It also assists in their transition after graduation to apprenticeship training, college, university or the workplace.



Benefits of an SHSM

SHSM PROGRAMS ENABLE STUDENTS TO:

- customize their secondary school education to suit their interests and talents;
- develop specialized knowledge and skills;
- earn credits that postsecondary educational institutions and the sector recognize;
- gain sector-recognized certification and career-relevant training;
- identify, explore, and refine career goals and make informed decisions about their future; and,
- remain flexible, with the option to shift between pathways, should their goals and plans change.

STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN SHSM RECEIVE:

- an Ontario Secondary School Diploma with an embossed Red Seal;
- an SHSM Record documenting his/her achievement; and,
- formal recognition on his/her Ontario Student Transcript.



The requirements of each SHSM are unique and geared to a specific sector. Each SHSM consists of five required components:

- 1 **Bundle of credits** - A defined bundle of credits consisting of eight to ten Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits, including cooperative education credits
- 2 **Certification and training experiences** - Sector-recognized certifications and/or training courses
- 3 **Experiential learning and career exploration activities** - Experiential learning and career exploration activities within the sector
- 4 **Reach ahead experiences** - Learning experiences connected with the student's postsecondary plans
- 5 **Sector-partnered experiences (SPE)** - Experiences in which students engage with a sector partner to explore sector-related content, skills, and knowledge involving either ICE (innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship), coding, or mathematical literacy



ARTS & CULTURE

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Drama

Music

Visual Arts

Photography

Communications

Technology

APPRENTICESHIP

- Entertainment Industry Power Technician
- Painter and Decorator

COLLEGE

- Animator
- Photographer

UNIVERSITY

- Producer, Director
- Painter, Sculptor, Visual Artists

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Graphic Artist or Illustrator
- Musician

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Cathedral High School

St. Jean De Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



BUSINESS

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Accounting

Business Leadership

Computer Science

Entrepreneurship

Law

Marketing

APPRENTICESHIP

- Parts Technician
- Sports Events Coordinator

COLLEGE

- Accounting and Related Clerk
- Legal Secretary

UNIVERSITY

- Business Development Officer
- Specialist in Human Resources

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Retail Salesperson
- Shippers and Receivers

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School

Cathedral High School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



CONSTRUCTION

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Construction Technology

Exploring Computer
Engineering Technology

Manufacturing Technology

Physics

Technological Design

Transportation Technology

APPRENTICESHIP

- Carpenter, Electrician, Plumber

COLLEGE

- Architectural Design Technician
- Interior Design

UNIVERSITY

- Architect
- Electrical, Mechanical Engineer

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Concrete Finisher
- Drywall Installer

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



ENERGY

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Construction
Technology

Chemistry

Coding

Environmental Sciences

Physics

Technological Design

APPRENTICESHIP

- Electrician
- Power Line Worker

COLLEGE

- Energy Conservation Officer
- Environmental Technician

UNIVERSITY

- Chemical, Electrical Engineer
- Energy Planner

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Home Renovator
- Solar Energy Installer

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School



HEALTH & WELLNESS

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Biology & Chemistry

Healthcare

Fitness & Kinesiology

Food and Nutrition

Healthy Active Living

Raising and Caring for Children

APPRENTICESHIP

- Child and Youth Worker
- Early Childhood Educator

COLLEGE

- Ambulance Attendants
- Practical Nurse

UNIVERSITY

- Chiropractor, Dentist, Doctor
- Sports Therapist

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Certified Personal Trainer
- Hospital Porter

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Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School

Cathedral High School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Food and Nutrition

Food and Culture

Travel and Tourism

APPRENTICESHIP

- Baker, Chef
- Special Events Coordinator

COLLEGE

- Conference and Event Planner
- Hotel/Resort Manager

UNIVERSITY

- Dietician, Nutritionist
- Public Relations

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Hotel Clerk
- Tour and Travel Guide

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Cathedral High School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Communications
Technology

Computer Science

Computer Programming

Physics

APPRENTICESHIP

- Computer Network Technician
- Network Cabling Specialist

COLLEGE

- Broadcast Technician
- Web Designer and Developer

UNIVERSITY

- Computer Engineer
- Software Engineer and Designer

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Retail Salesperson
- Desktop Publishing Operator

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Cathedral High School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School



MANUFACTURING

APPRENTICESHIP

- Electrician, Millwright, Welder
- Tool and Die Maker

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Manufacturing Technology

Chemistry

Construction Engineering
Technology | Physics

Computer Science

Technological Design

Transportation Technology

COLLEGE

- Design and Drafting Technologist
- Manufacturing Technician

UNIVERSITY

- Chemical, Electrical, Industrial
Engineer

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Labourer, Material Handling

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School



NON-PROFIT

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Canadian and World Studies –
Geography, History, Law

Social Studies – Family Studies;
Raising and Caring for Children;
Introduction to Anthropology,
Psychology, Sociology

Philosophy | World Religion

International Business Fundamentals

Business Leadership

APPRENTICESHIP

- Conference and Event Planner
- Child and Youth Worker

COLLEGE

- Administrative Officer
- Business Manager

UNIVERSITY

- Public Affairs Officer
- Social Services Planner

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Festival Organizer
- Community Care Worker

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School

Cathedral High School

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



SPORTS

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

- Business Leadership
- Communications
- Technology
- Healthy Active Living
- Healthcare
- Marketing
- Science

APPRENTICESHIP

- Special Events Coordinator

COLLEGE

- Broadcast Technician
- Recreation Facility Manager

UNIVERSITY

- Athletic Therapist
- Physical Education Teacher
- Sports Management

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Coach
- Fitness/Sports Instructor

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS OFFER THIS SHSM

St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School

St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School



TRANSPORTATION

GRADES 11 & 12 COURSES

Transportation
Technology
Technological Design
Computer Science
Environmental Science
Physics

APPRENTICESHIP

- Auto Body Repairer
- Truck and Coach Technician

COLLEGE

- Air Pilot
- Industrial Engineer

UNIVERSITY

- Aerospace Engineer
- Automotive Engineer

WORK/COMMUNITY

- Airport Ramp Attendant
- Delivery and Courier Driver

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St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School



See your guidance counsellor for details
about SHSM programs at your school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL	SHSM PROGRAMS OFFERED	
Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School	Arts & Culture Business Construction Health & Wellness	Manufacturing Non-profit Transportation
Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School	Business Construction Health & Wellness	Manufacturing Non-profit Transportation
Cathedral High School	Arts & Culture Business Health & Wellness Hospitality and Tourism	Information and Communications Technology Non-profit Transportation
St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School	Arts & Culture Business Construction Health & Wellness Hospitality and Tourism	Information and Communications Technology Non-profit Sports Transportation
St. John Henry Newman Catholic Secondary School	Arts & Culture Business Construction Health & Wellness	Non-profit Sports Transportation
St. Mary Catholic Secondary School	Arts & Culture Business Construction Energy	Health & Wellness Non-profit Transportation
St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School	Arts & Culture Business Construction	Health & Wellness Non-profit Transportation

GET A HEAD START ON YOUR FUTURE
BY GAINING SECTOR AND POSTSECONDARY
VALUED KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE
AND SKILLS!



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WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact your school SHSM Teacher, Guidance
Counsellor or visit:

Ontario.ca/SHSM

