

ENVIRONMENT



Welcome to **SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJORS (SHSM)**

What are **SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJORS (SHSM)?**

The **SHSM** is a specialized, ministry-approved program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

SHSMs assist students in their transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace.

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



6 KEY BENEFITS for STUDENTS



- 1 Customize their secondary school education to suit their interests and talents;
- 2 Develop specialized knowledge and skills that are valued by the sector and postsecondary education institutions;
- 3 Earn credits that are recognized by the sector and postsecondary education institutions;
- 4 Gain sector-specific and career-relevant certification and training;
- 5 Develop essential skills and work habits that are valued by the sector;
- 6 Identify, explore, and refine their career goals and make informed decisions about their postsecondary destination.

HOW DO I ENROLL?



- Contact lead SHSM teacher in your school, preferably in Grade 10
- During course selection in Grade 10
- Contact the Guidance Department in your school

SHSM **Student Success**
GRADES 7-12
SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

COMPONENTS of an SHSM

1. BUNDLED CREDITS

Eight to ten Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits focused in the area of the skilled career, including cooperative education credits



2. CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

Sector-recognized certifications and specialized training courses



3. EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & CAREER EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

Experiential activities within the sector and career field



4. REACH AHEAD EXPERIENCES

Learning experiences connected with the student's postsecondary plans, including apprenticeship, college, university or workplace

5. SECTOR PARTNERED CONTEXTUALIZED EXPERIENCE

The offerings within this component include, Innovation Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) training, sector-delivered contextualized coding, sector-delivered contextualized mathematical literacy

All SHSMs are offered in all four pathways: apprenticeship training, college, university, and workplace.

What do **GRADUATES RECEIVE?**

Students who complete the requirements for the OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma) and for the SHSM will receive an OSSD with an embossed SHSM seal on it. Credits earned towards the SHSM are indicated on the Provincial Report Card, and completion of the SHSM is recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript (OST).

REQUIRED COMPONENTS FOR THE SHSM–ENVIRONMENT



The SHSM–Environment has the following **FIVE** required components:

1 A BUNDLE OF NINE (9) GRADE 11 AND GRADE 12 CREDITS

- **FOUR environment major credits** (that lead to apprenticeship training, college, university or workplace)
- **THREE other required credits** (one English, one Mathematics, one science or business studies)
- **TWO cooperative education credits**

2 SEVEN (7) SECTOR-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS AND/OR TRAINING COURSES/PROGRAMS

FOUR (4) COMPULSORY

- **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Level C**
– includes automated external defibrillation (AED)
- **Compass/Map Global Positioning System (GPS)**
- **Standard First Aid**
- **Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)**
– generic (i.e., not site-specific) instruction

THREE (3) ELECTIVES FROM THE LIST BELOW

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> advanced training in a technique (e.g., knots techniques) | <input type="checkbox"/> habitat restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasure Craft Operator | <input type="checkbox"/> water/ice safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> animal and plant management | <input type="checkbox"/> Hike Ontario | <input type="checkbox"/> portfolio development | <input type="checkbox"/> watershed management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below Zero | <input type="checkbox"/> introduction to stream assessment protocol | <input type="checkbox"/> project management | <input type="checkbox"/> wilderness first aid |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chainsaw safety | <input type="checkbox"/> ladder safety training | <input type="checkbox"/> Project Wild | <input type="checkbox"/> wilderness survival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> customer service | <input type="checkbox"/> leadership skills | <input type="checkbox"/> radio operator | <input type="checkbox"/> Working at Heights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fire safety and fire extinguisher use | <input type="checkbox"/> Leave No Trace | <input type="checkbox"/> search and rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> soil classification and testing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geographic Information System (GIS) | <input type="checkbox"/> life-saving (Bronze Cross or higher) | <input type="checkbox"/> sector-specific vehicle operation and safety | <input type="checkbox"/> bear safety |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Ontario Hunter Education | <input type="checkbox"/> species identification (e.g., fish, birds, plants, trees, small mammals) | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> paddling techniques | | |

3 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND CAREER EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

Opportunities relevant to the sector might include the following:

- One-on-one observation of a cooperative education student at a placement in the environmental sector (an example of job twinning)
- A day-long observation of an environmental sector employer or employee (an example of job shadowing)
- Attendance at a trade show (e.g., Toronto Sportsmen’s Show, Outdoor Adventure Show),
- A conference, or a workshop focusing on the environmental sector
- Assisting with trail maintenance and trail cleanup
- Participating in Envirothon
- A one- or two-week work experience with a member of an environmental non-governmental organization (NGO) or an employee in the environmental sector (an example of work experience)

4 REACH AHEAD EXPERIENCES

Students are provided one or more reach ahead experiences – opportunities to take the next steps along their chosen pathway – as shown in the following examples:

- **Apprenticeship:** visiting an approved apprenticeship delivery agent in the sector
- **College:** interviewing a college student enrolled in a sector-specific program
- **University:** observing a university class in a sector-related program
- **Workplace:** interviewing an employee in the sector

5 SPCE – SECTOR-PARTNERED CONTEXTUALIZED EXPERIENCE

Provides schools with the flexibility to adjust their programming to local capacity and opportunities, and align with the interests and needs of students.

OCCUPATIONS IN THE ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Arborist | • Meteorologist |
| • Aquaculture Operator & Manager | • Soil Testing Technologist |
| • Environmental Technician | • Air Quality Meteorologist |
| • Forest Ecologist | • Climatologist |
| • Forestry Technologist/Technician | • Geological Engineer |
| • Geological & Mineral Technologist/Technician | • Landscape Architects |
| | • Silviculture & Forestry Worker |
| | • Waste Diversion Consultant |