

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



YOUR SKILLS,  
YOUR FUTURE.

CONSTRUCTION



# CREDITS

## Course Package

Each Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program offers students a bundle of eight to ten credits. These courses are regular Ontario secondary school courses that allow students to work towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, but have been bundled as the most relevant courses to prepare students for a future in the construction sector.

Two credits in this bundle include cooperative education where students pursue a work placement in a field of interest.

## Achievements in the Program

- **Certifications and Awareness Training:** Students complete selected sector-recognized certifications and training
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
  - Have the opportunity to learn from industry professionals
  - Complete two cooperative education credits and gain work experience in the construction sector
  - See guest speakers and go on field trips to explore careers in construction
- Gain a **Sector-Partnered Experiences** (SPE) component that includes one of the following options: Innovation Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) training; sector-delivered coding; or, sector-delivered mathematical literacy. The SPE will require a six hour activity, delivered with a sector partner and have an experiential and an assessment component
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and postsecondary education opportunities in the construction sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



### The bundle includes:

- **Four “major” credits** in Grade 11 and 12 related to the construction, design, and/or custom woodworking
- **Supporting credits:**
  - One Grade 11 English credit (and one Grade 12 English credit for students in the workplace pathway)
  - One Grade 11 and one Grade 12 math credit (only one Grade 11 required for students in the workplace pathway)
  - One Grade 11 or Grade 12 credit in science or business studies
  - Two cooperative education credits to experience life in the construction sector

# THE EXPERIENCE

## **Students in the Construction Specialist High Skills Major program will:**

- Develop skills, knowledge and experience in architectural design, carpentry, framing, plumbing or electrical areas of the construction sector
- Connect with industry professionals through field trips, guest speakers and other experiential learning opportunities
- Complete training and sector-recognized certifications, such as Working at Heights, basic health and safety, Standard First Aid & CPR with Automated External Defibrillation (AED), and WHMIS-GHS.
- Participate in opportunities to explore authentic postsecondary education in their chosen pathways
- Learn about apprenticeship opportunities and how the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) works





The construction industry is diverse and offers the opportunity to participate in all kinds of projects such as office buildings, plants, schools, roads, hydroelectric dams, hospitals, churches, houses and tunnels. Large or small, these projects are designed, managed and built—carefully and capably—by people with the ingenuity, skill and education to create the buildings of tomorrow.



For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major Construction program, contact your school guidance counsellor, SHSM board lead or visit [Ontario.ca/SHSM](https://Ontario.ca/SHSM)