

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



YOUR SKILLS,  
YOUR FUTURE.

ENVIRONMENT



# 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 environment 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 environment sector
  - See guest speakers and go on field trips to explore careers in environment
- 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 assessment component
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and postsecondary education opportunities in the environment sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



### The bundle includes:

- **Four “major” credits** in environment in Grade 11 and 12, such as environmental science, biology, outdoor education and geography
- **Supporting credits:**
  - One Grade 11 and one Grade 12 English credit
  - One Grade 11 math credit
  - Two cooperative education credits to experience life in the environment sector

# THE EXPERIENCE

## Students in the Environment Specialist High Skills Major program will:

- Develop an understanding of current environmental issues and make connections to global perspectives
- Develop leadership skills while promoting change to better their school, their community and the global environment
- Participate in field trips, job shadowing and experiential learning to develop the environmental knowledge and employability skills necessary to pursue postsecondary education or employment
- Snowshoe, hike, climb, camp, orienteer and learn in the outdoors





In order to sustain a clean, safe and healthy world, the environment continues to be an emerging global sector. As such, the government and other organizations have launched various programs to protect our air, water and land resources. The environment sector offers career opportunities in conservation, research, recreation, innovation and more to students who are interested in this field.



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

