

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



**YOUR SKILLS,  
YOUR FUTURE.**

**INFORMATION &  
COMMUNICATIONS  
TECHNOLOGY**



# 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 information and communications technology program (ICT) 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 ICT sector
  - See guest speakers and go on field trips to explore careers in information and communications technology
- 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 information and communications technology sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



### The bundle includes:

- **Four “major” credits** in information and communications technology in Grade 11 and 12
- **Supporting credits:**
  - One Grade 11 or 12 English credit
  - One Grade 11 or 12 math credit
  - One Grade 11 or 12 art, business studies, or science credit
  - Two cooperative education credits to experience life in the information and communications technology sector

# THE EXPERIENCE

**Depending on the focus of the ICT SHSM, students will:**

- Explore the areas of multimedia production, computer science, engineering, game design, audio engineering, robotics, app development, video and film production, graphics, photography, animation, web development and architectural/mechanical/interior design
- Develop transferable skills to use across all digital media
- Develop the hard and soft skills needed to communicate through multiple platforms
- Participate in opportunities to explore authentic postsecondary education in their chosen pathways





Information and communications technology is one of the fastest growing sectors in Ontario. ICT offers students an opportunity to specialize and gain qualifications in careers such as multimedia production, computer science, computer engineering, robotics, game design, audio engineering, app development, video and film production, broadcast journalism, graphics, photography, animation, web development, coding, architectural/mechanical/interior design, web design, software design, electronics and programming.



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

