

# How to plan for SHSM

## GRADE 8

**Investigate** her interests and passions inside and outside of school.

## GRADE 9

**Enroll** in courses that align her interests, skills, and academic abilities.

## GRADE 10

**Explore** opportunities in Career Studies course.

## GRADE 11

Begin **SHSM** programming.

## GRADE 12

Complete **SHSM** requirements.

### What if...

...after starting the program a student decides that this is not for them?

All credits earned in an SHSM program count towards the completion of a standard Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Any certifications or training gained will hold a student in good stead for part-time jobs or work placements.

### How Do I Find Out More?

For additional information, contact the Guidance or Co-operative Department at your local secondary school or visit:

[www.kprschools.ca](http://www.kprschools.ca) and follow the link to SHSM under the Program menu.



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE  
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## Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

A guide for students and parents



## What is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

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

## SHSM Sectors

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board is proud to offer programs in a variety of sectors:

- Arts and Culture
- Business
- Construction
- The Environment
- Forestry
- Horticulture and Landscaping
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information and Communications Technology
- Manufacturing
- Non-profit
- Sports
- Transportation

## Benefits to Students

SHSM also assists students in their transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace:

- Successful completion of an SHSM is indicated on the student's Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) by a Red Seal.
- Successful completion of an SHSM is indicated on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST), where it may be seen by any post secondary institution, employer or training organization.
- Students receive an SHSM Record that documents their achievement of the required components, including sector-related certifications earned and or training courses completed.
- Students gain valuable experience and certifications, which increases confidence in their ability to succeed and see the connections between their studies, the world beyond high school and future careers.
- Students have the opportunity to explore, identify and refine career goals and make informed decisions related to post secondary education or training and next steps towards a career.



## What is required?

Every SHSM must include the following components:

### Contextualized Learning Activities (CLA)

Students in a SHSM program will complete learning activities that are based on the knowledge and skills relevant to the economic sector of their chosen SHSM. Contextualized learning activities address curriculum expectations in these courses. For example, a student in a Construction SHSM could have a six-hour unit on building roof trusses as part of his or her Grade 11 Mathematics course.

### Sector-Recognized Certifications

All students will receive certification in:

- WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System)
- CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation)
- Standard First Aid.

In addition, students will receive at least three more sector-specific certifications, for example:

- recording equipment
- chainsaw safety
- Geographic Information System (GIS)
- CWB welding
- fall protection
- elevated work platforms
- plant layout
- safe food handling
- Smart Serve.

## Experiential Learning

Students will have experiential learning activities within the sector, which may include:

- job shadowing experience
- short term work experience
- virtual work experience
- Skills Canada competitions.

## “Reach Ahead” Experiences

“Reach Ahead” experiences are connected with students’ chosen post-secondary pathway. These experiences could include visits to sector-related industries and/or businesses, training facilities, skills competitions, colleges, universities and dual credit programs.

## Ontario Skills Passport (OSP)

Students will develop essential skills and work habits that are required in the sector, and will have their performance of those skills and work habits assessed and documented, using tools connected with the Ontario Skills Passport.

More information on the Ontario Skills Passport is available at: <http://skills.edu.gov.on.ca>

## Bundled Credits

A SHSM Program must contain a bundle of 8-10 credits including:

- four major credits that provide sector specific knowledge and skills
- two to four other required credits from the Ontario curriculum, in which some expectations are met through learning activities related to the sector
- two credits in Cooperative Education related to the major credits.

### Sample Specialist High Skills Major Timetable (Transportation SHSM)

Apprenticeship Pathway		College Pathway		University Pathway		Workplace Pathway	
Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 11	Grade 12
TTJ 3E or TTJ 3C Transportation	TTJ 4E2 or TTJ 4C2 Transportation	TTJ 3C Transportation	TTJ 4C2 Transportation	TTJ 3C Transportation	TTJ 4C Transportation	TTJ 3E Transportation	TTJ 4E2 Transportation
TMJ 3E or TMJ 3C Manufacturing	TTJ 4E2 or TTJ 4C2 Transportation	TMJ 3C Manufacturing	TTJ 4C2 Transportation	TDJ 3M Design	TDJ 4M Design	TMJ 3E Manufacturing	TTJ 4C2 Transportation
ENG 3E or ENG 3C English	ENG 4E or ENG 4C English	ENG 3C English	ENG 4C English	ENG 3U English	ENG 4U English	ENG 3E English	ENG 4E English
MBF 3C Mathematics	MAP4C Mathematics	MBF 3C Mathematics	MAP 4C Mathematics	MCR 3U Mathematics	MHF 4U Mathematics	MEL 3E Mathematics	MEL 4E Mathematics
SVN 3E or SPH 4C Science		SVN 3E or SPH 4C Science		SPH 3U Science		SVN 3E Science	
Electives Credits		Elective Credits		Elective Credits		Elective Credits	
2 Co-op Education credits related to major		2 Co-op Education credits related to major		2 Co-op Education credits related to major		2 Co-op Education credits related to major	