

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



ALGONQUIN & LAKESHORE CATHOLIC DSB

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a ministry-approved program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. SHSMs assist students in their transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace.

## Student Application Form

### What is an SHSM?

SHSM programs allow students to customize their high school experience and better prepare for graduation and beyond. This career-focused program is designed to bundle courses, related workplace experience, and certifications and training. Every SHSM program includes the following components:

- 4 credits in Grade 11 and 12 courses that provide sector-specific knowledge and skills;
- 2 credits in cooperative education related to the sector;
- 1 credit in a Grade 11 or 12 related subject such as Business or Science;
- Contextualized Learning Activities (CLAs) for the sector in Grade 11 math, Grade 12 English, and the related subject above;
- 6 or 7 sector-recognized certifications or training courses/programs, such as First Aid, CPR and WHMIS;
- Experiential learning and career exploration activities within the sector;
- Reach ahead experiences connected with students' postsecondary pathways;
- The use of the Ontario Skills Passport to document the development of the key Essential Skills and work habits for the sector.

### Student Information

First Name:	Last Name:
Cell Phone Number:	Home Phone Number:
E-mail Address:	
Date of Birth: (yyyy/mm/dd)	Current Grade: <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12

### Program Choice

#### Sector

In what sector do you plan to specialize? *(please check one)*

- Hospitality & Tourism                       Sports  
 Information & Communication Technology     Transportation

Identify the major credits you plan to take in

Grade 11: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 12: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Pathway

What postsecondary destination are you considering? *(please check one)*

- Apprenticeship     College     University     Workplace

#### Co-op Placement

In order of preference, what specific jobs/careers in the sector interest you?

\_\_\_\_\_

I plan to take co-op in     Grade 11     Grade 12

*The future is yours*

## Intent to Participate

By signing below, I acknowledge the following:

- Participation in the SHSM program does not commit a student to a post-secondary career in the area of specialization but will provide a well-rounded experience which emphasizes the chosen sector. Students may opt out of the program at any time and all credits received are applied to the OSSD as usual.
- In order to receive an SHSM Red Seal Diploma, a student must complete all program requirements as identified on the reverse of this page and in the fact sheet included for your future reference. Students should plan their grade 11 and 12 courses with these requirements in mind in their Individual Education Plan (IPP) using their *myBlueprint* High School Planner.
- The cost of completing the components required – certification training, experiential learning and career exploration activities, and reach ahead experiences – will be covered by the SHSM program. Some additional optional activities may be available for a nominal cost. A deposit to reserve a space in a training workshop may be required but will be refunded upon the student's participation in the training.
- Some components of the program may occur outside of SHSM courses or the school day (e.g., certification training workshops, career exploration activities, and reach ahead field trips) but ample notice will be provided. Considerable time and expense is incurred in arranging these opportunities and it is important that the student and parent recognize the commitment required; it is imperative that the student make every effort to attend these activities or risk withdrawal from the program.
- Certifications acquired outside of the program may be recognized for SHSM purposes; documentation should be presented to the student's guidance counsellor.
- The SHSM Red Seal diploma designation can only be granted in the student's graduating year; a returning graduate's subsequent completion of the requirements will be recognized on the student's SHSM Record and Ontario Student Transcript.

I understand the requirements of the SHSM program and am committed to working towards a Red Seal Diploma by completing these requirements. I may change my destination pathway or withdraw from the program by notifying the SHSM lead teacher and my Guidance counsellor.

Student's Signature:	Parent's/Guardian's Signature:
Date: (yyyy/mm/dd)	Date: (yyyy/mm/dd)

*Congratulations...the future is yours!*

## For School Use

Received and reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recorded in Maplewood by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The information in this application will be used for purposes consistent with the Education Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

**St. Theresa Catholic Secondary School**  
www.sainttheresa.ca  
www.alcddb.on.ca

