

# Information Communication Technology Specialist High Skills Major

This program focuses on diverse career opportunities in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector as well as theoretical and practical experiences related to Information and Communications Technology, including:

- Computer systems (e.g., computer engineering, technical support, electronics, robotics, network engineering, computer programming);
- Software and digital media (e.g., computer and video games, simulations, computer animation, web design, design and development).

This career-focused program enables students to gain ICT sector related skills and knowledge and helps them focus on graduation and on pursuing their post-secondary goals. The SHSM program is designed for students studying at all levels and in all pathways (apprenticeship, college, university, or workplace). Successful completion of a Specialist High Skills Major is indicated on the student's Ontario Secondary School Diploma by a red embossed seal indicating "Specialist High Skills Major" and the SHSM designation is documented on the student's Ontario Student Transcript. Students also receive a SHSM Record that documents their achievement of the required components, including sector-related certificates earned and training courses completed.

## What are the required components of this program?

1. A selected bundle of nine Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits that comprises:

Visual Arts and Photography (AWQ)	Technological Design (TDJ)
Computer Science (ICS)	Communications Technology (TGJ)
Yearbook (IDC)	Manufacturing Technology (TMJ)
Physics (SPH)	Construction Technology (TCJ)

- Three other required credits. One in English, one in Math and one credit in Science, Social Science or Humanities.
  - Two cooperative education credits tied to the sector
2. Seven sector-recognized certifications and/or training courses/programs (four compulsory and a choice of three electives).
  3. Experiential learning and career exploration activities within the sector.
  4. Reach ahead experiences connected with the student's postsecondary pathway.
  5. Development of essential skills and work habits required in this sector, and documentation of them using the Ontario Skills Passport.
  6. Completion of six hours of **ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) training**. ICE training is an experience in which student teams will use a process called the **3 Gears** to solve a real world challenge specific to a sector partner's organization.