

 SPECIALIST
HIGH SKILLS
MAJOR

YOUR SKILLS, 
YOUR FUTURE.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CREDITS

Course Package

Each SHSM program offers students a bundle of 8 - 10 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 sector.

Two credits in this bundle include Ccooperative 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 related to the major
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
 - > Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
 - > Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the ICT sector
 - > See guest speakers, 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 6 hour activity, delivered with a sector partner and have an experiential and an assessment component
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and postsecondary education opportunities in the in Information and Communications Technology sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



The bundle includes:

- **4 “major” credits** in Information and Communications Technology in grade 11 and 12
- **Supporting credits:**
 - > 1 Grade 12 English credit
 - > 1 Grade 11 Math credit
 - > 1 Grade 11 or 12 Art, Science or Business studies credit
 - > 2 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 [OCDSB.ca/SHSM](https://ocdsb.ca/shsm)

