

## Program Overview

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is increasingly becoming an essential part of many industries, required to save time and increase efficiency, advance technology and innovation, for electronic access to finances or online shopping, or creativity, marketing, and communication. ICT includes both the hardware and information technology skills, as well as the creative, communications and graphic arts expertise.

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) gives students an opportunity to specialize, gain qualifications, and plan a career pathway in various areas of the ICT sector. The SHSM Program has a number of required components, designed to give students a “leg-up” to pursue post-secondary opportunities, valuing apprenticeship, college, university and work.

## The Experience

Depending on the focus, students will have the following opportunities:

- Communications Technology Focus - Acton District High School and Abbey Park High School
  - > Explore the areas of animation, audio engineering, photography, video production and graphic design
  - > Develop the skills required to transfer information using electronic, live and graphic communication methods
  - > Create a variety of projects to develop an effective portfolio for job interviews and admission to post-secondary education
- Information Technology Focus - Craig Kielburger Secondary School and T.A. Blakelock High School
  - > Study information technology with a focus on service, maintenance, networks, interfacing, robotics and programming
  - > Become sector-qualified in CISCO Discovery Part I, IT Essentials and FIT
  - > Learn and prepare for post-secondary information technology apprenticeships, college and university programs and careers

For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major Information and Communications Technology programs, contact your school guidance counsellor and log onto [haltonpathways.ca](http://haltonpathways.ca).

[schooltocareer.ca](http://schooltocareer.ca)

# Information & Communications Technology



Computer Programmer

Graphic Designer

*Video Game Developer*

Computer Engineer  
Technical Producer



## 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 sector.

## The bundle includes:

- **4 “major” credits** in Information and Communications Technology in grade 11 and 12
- Supporting credits, which include Contextualized Learning Activities (opportunities for students to learn the subject in the context of the Information and Communications Technology sector):
  - > 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

## Achievements in the Program



- **Communications Technology:** Students complete sector recognized certifications related to the major and selected from a list, including Standard First Aid, CPR Training, WHMIS and 3 electives specific to the Communications Technology sector such as boom and scissor lift training and lighting for digital video and photography.
- **Information Technology:** Students complete sector recognized certifications such as CISCO Discovery part 1, CISCO IT Essentials and FIT (Focus on Information Technology). Students will also complete Standard First Aid, CPR and WHMIS training.
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
  - > Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
  - > Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the Information and Communications Technology sector
  - > See guest speakers, go on field trips and other workplace experiences to explore careers in Information and Communications Technology
- Document your essential skills and work habits through the **Ontario Skills Passport**
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and post-secondary education opportunities in the Information and Communications Technology sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**

## HDSB SHSM Program Locations: Information and Communications Technology

Focus	Location	Region of Halton
Communications Technology	Abbey Park High School	Oakville
Communications Technology	Acton District High School	Acton
Information Technology	Craig Kielburger Secondary School	Milton
Information Technology	T.A. Blakelock High School	Oakville

