

Program Overview

The business sector offers opportunities in finance, retail, real estate, human resources, management and budget-related careers in the other sectors of our economy. Students who know they love business or are interested in exploring their options can take the Specialist High Skills Major program to engage in learning and experiences that will be an asset for a future in business.

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

The Experience

Students will be exposed to a wide range of authentic business experiences such as:

- Engaging with entrepreneurs and other business people
- Participating in business competitions, such as the University Stock Market Competition, Python’s Pit, Ontario Business Educators’ Association contests and DECA (Developing Excellence Celebrating Achievement) regional and provincial competitions
- Visiting post-secondary institutions, such as Sheridan College, McMaster University, Wilfrid Laurier University and the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto
- Taking part in real-world business simulations, completing a business-related internship and earning certifications relevant in the business world
- Developing problem-solving, teamwork, management and leadership skills in a business setting

For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major Business programs, contact your school guidance counsellor and log onto haltonpathways.ca.

haltonpathways.ca

Business



Accountant
Real Estate Agent

Entrepreneur
Lawyer

Customer Service Representative
Human Resources Officer

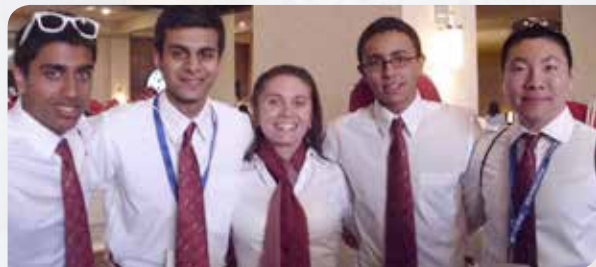


Course Package

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 Business sector.

The bundle includes:

- **4 “major” credits** in Business in grade 11 and 12, such as Marketing, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Canadian and International Law, Financial Accounting, Business Leadership, International Business and Small Business Management.
- Supporting credits, which include Contextualized Learning Activities (opportunities for students to learn in the context of the Business sector i.e. Students complete a math project related to finance):
 - > 1 Grade 12 English credit (and a Grade 11 English credit for students in the workplace pathway)
 - > 1 Grade 11 and 1 Grade 12 math credit (Grade 11 only for students in the workplace pathway)
 - > 2 cooperative education credits to experience life in the Business sector which may be completed during the summer



Achievements in the Program

- **Certifications and Awareness Training:** Students complete sector-recognized certifications related to the major and selected from a list, including Standard First Aid, CPR Training, WHMIS and three electives specific to the Business sector, such as leadership training, personality inventories, group dynamics, customer service and office health and safety
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
 - > Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
 - > Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the Business sector
 - > See guest speakers, go on field trips and other workplace experiences to explore careers in Business
- 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 Business sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



HDSB SHSM Program Locations: Business

School	Region of Halton
Abbey Park High School	Oakville
Craig Kielburger Secondary School	Milton
Iroquois Ridge High School	Oakville
M.M. Robinson High School	Burlington
Oakville Trafalgar High School	Oakville

