



Potential Careers

- ✓ Fundraising Coordinator
- ✓ Social Worker
- ✓ Lobbyist
- ✓ Nutritionist
- ✓ Community Outreach Worker

A “Head-Start ” – Program Overview

The Non-Profit sector offers a range of careers that are dynamic, engaging, and rewarding. Whether in the fields of art, culture, education, the environment, information technology, healthcare, social development, or sport, countless career paths are available for people who share the sector’s common vision: to make a difference. The sector’s employers include some 69,000 non-profit organizations nationwide. They are active in a variety of areas – health and social services, religion, development and housing, arts and culture, sports and recreation, the environment, education and research, fundraising, law, advocacy, and politics – both in Canada and internationally.

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in Non-Profit gives students an opportunity to specialize, gain qualifications, and plan a career pathway in various areas of the Non-Profit 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 career areas, and valuing apprenticeship, college, university and work.



The SHSM Experience

- Understand, through a variety of experiences, the complex issues associated with non-profit and community development, including diversity, equity and inclusion, civic mindedness and global thinking
- Analyse legal issues and government policy around immigration, multiculturalism and international issues
- Gain real world experience in community settings working with diverse groups to build climates of collaboration
- Develop skills and knowledge associated with the non-profit sector, including problem solving, oral communication, job/task planning and team building and explore careers in the non-profit sector

What is my Plan for Achieving My Goals?

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 Non-Profit sector.

The bundle includes:

- 4 “major” credits in Non-Profit related courses in grade 11 and 12, such as law, economics, business leadership, international business, equity and social justice, geography, world issues and urban patterns & population.
- Supporting credits, which include Contextualized Learning Activities (opportunities for students to learn the subject in the context of the Social Justice sector):
 - » 1 Grade 12 English credit or 1 Grade 11 English credit for those students pursuing the workplace pathway
 - » 1 Grade 11 math credit
 - » 1 Grade 11 or 12 science or business studies credit
 - » 2 cooperative education credits to experience life in the Non-Profit sector

What are My Opportunities?

- **Resume-building and Awareness Training:** Students complete sector-recognized certifications related to the major, including Standard First Aid, CPR Training, WHMIS, ethical considerations and electives such as proposal and grant writing, management and leadership, communication skills and conflict resolution training.
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
 - » Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
 - » Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the Non-Profit sector
 - » See guest speakers, go on field trips and other workplace experiences to explore careers in Non-Profit
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Visit College and University campuses and industry partners to explore potential post-secondary pathway opportunities
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to apprenticeship, college, university or work

School: Assumption CSS, Burlington

SHSM Program: NON-PROFIT

Focus: Non-Profit

Program Teacher: M. Noella Laferriere laferrierem@hcdsb.org

For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major program:

- contact the program teacher
- contact your school guidance counsellor
- log into myblueprint.ca/hcgsb
- visit <https://haltonpathways.ca> and <https://studentsuccess.hcgsb.org>

