

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR Construction SHSM

Ontario.ca/SHSM

Construction Specialist High Skills Major

According to the Ontario Construction Secretariat, the construction industry is one of Ontario's largest employers. The Construction Sector Council has created a province-by-province, trade-by-trade labour market forecast for the next nine years. In Ontario, it is estimated that 60,000 workers will be required to replace those retiring, who will take essential technical, supervisory, and management skills with them.

There are four categories of work in the construction industry. Each requires the use of different equipment and workers with a variety of skills. Depending on the career chosen, a graduate could work in any or all of these categories:

- » new home building and renovation, including building, remodeling, or renovating houses and apartment buildings
- » heavy industrial construction, including building industrial facilities such as cement, automotive, chemical, or power plants, refineries, and oil-sands installations
- » institutional and commercial construction, including building commercial and institutional buildings and structures such as stadiums, schools, hospitals, grain elevators, and swimming pools
- » civil engineering construction, including engineering projects such as highways, dams, water and sewer lines, power and communication lines, and bridges.

Sample Occupations in the Construction Sector

- » Brick and Stone Mason
- » Carpenter
- » Construction Millwright
- » Electrician
- » Architect
- » Electrical Engineer
- » Structural Engineer
- » Architectural Design Technician
- » Civil Engineering Technologist
- » Interior Designer
- » Home Inspector
- » Carpenter Helper
- » Concrete Finisher
- » Construction Trades Helper and Labourer
- » Demolition Worker
- » Drywall Installer



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Required Components for the SHSM - Construction

The SHSM-Construction has the following five components:

1. A bundle of ten Grade 11 and 12 courses

- » four Construction major credits
- » four required courses in English, math, business studies or science where a CLA is delivered
- » two co-op credits in the sector (additional co-op credits can be substituted for major or required credits)

SHSM Construction									
Credits		Apprenticeship Training		College		University		Workplace	
		Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Gr. 11	Gr. 12
Major Credits (may include maximum of 1 Co-op Credit)		4*		4*		4*		4*	
includes content delivered in the sector's context	English	1		1		1		1	
	Mathematics	2		2		2		1	
	Business Studies or Science or Additional Co-op Credit	1		1		1		1	
Cooperative Education		2		2		2		2	
Total Number of Credits		10		10		10		10	

*a minimum of one Gr. 11 and one Gr. 12 credit

2. Seven sector recognized certifications and training:

Five Compulsory				
CPR -Level A	WHMIS	Standard First Aid	Fall protection/working at Heights	Health and safety - basic
Two electives from the list below				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Chainsaw safety » Energy efficiency training » Personal protective equipment construction » Suspended access equipment » Confined space awareness » Hoisting and rigging » Powder-actuated tools » Traffic control 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Electrical safety » Insulated concrete forming » Propane in construction » Trenching safety » Elevated work platforms » Lift truck safety » Scaffold safety » Extinguishing fires 		

3. Experiential Learning and Exploration Activities

4. Reach Ahead Experiences

5. Essential Skills and Workplace Habits and the Ontario Skills Passport

For more information, please contact Guidance