

# NON-PROFIT & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

You can help prepare your future workforce by participating now in the **Specialist High Skills Major program**

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a focused education program in which high school students select a particular occupational area of interest and then pursue a program that enables them to experience both the academic and practical side of that career. These courses are presented over a two year period, allowing students to gain technical skills, knowledge related to the career, certifications, Essential Skills and work habits valued by the sector.

SHSM courses are designed to graduate young people from high school with a unique education that allows them to transition more easily from school to the world of work. To accomplish this, guidance from their classroom teachers, community experts and post-secondary education is essential because that is how their practical education will be learned. SHSM students need mentorship - this is how they can learn about this sector in the real world.

## SHSM Overview

There are various components in every SHSM program including focused academic studies; completion of industry-recognized certifications; career exploration activities; and two hands-on cooperative education (co-op) placements. All of these aspects allow the student to refine, extend, apply and practise their skills but the last two areas need help from the community. They need guest speakers, mentors and co-op opportunities in order to gain the experience to graduate. They need you!

Getting involved is easy and the end result will be good for Hamilton and will provide your business with a tremendous opportunity to secure young, dedicated and enthusiastic skilled employees.

Contact Beth Gibson at 905.529.4483 ext. 224 or register at [www.employerregistry.ca](http://www.employerregistry.ca) and get involved today!

## The non-profit SHSM program is offered at:

- Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary
- Cardinal Newman Secondary
- Cathedral High
- St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic Secondary
- St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary

## Getting involved is easy:

- Welcome co-op students into your workplace
- Offer career exploration activities
- Participate in the Speakers Bureau and Workplace Tours program
- Provide free work experience opportunities

## Sample non-profit careers:

- Bookkeeper
- Administrative Assistant
- Special Events Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Fund Developer
- Marketing Manager

