



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

VOLUME 15

April 25
2025

CONTACT US

905-294-1886
Guidance x 515

markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca

DEPARTMENT HEAD

Gabrielle McGill (A—Hs)
gabrielle.mcgill@yrdsb.ca

COUNSELLORS

Teesha McNeilly (Hu—K)
Teesha.mcneilly@yrdsb.ca

Marc Weinstein (L—R)
marc.weinstein@yrdsb.ca

Anna Flikas (S—Z)
anna.flikas@yrdsb.ca



APPOINTMENTS

Students can make appointments online using Teach Assist.

- Have your child log in to their Teach Assist account
 - Under the sub-heading "Appointment Bookings"
 - Click on the day and time the student wants to have their appointment (if the appointment slot is highlighted in blue). If there are no appointments displayed, then you will have to select another day, as all counsellors have been booked for that day.
 - You will see shaded in blue "All open appointments". Choose the appropriate alpha Guidance counsellor (based on your child's last name) from the list on the left.
 - If the student needs to cancel their appointment for any reason, click "cancel".
- If your child has any trouble making their online appointment, please let us know.

Please note: If guardians/parents wish to make an appointment with their student's guidance counsellor, please feel free to give us a call at 905-294-1886 ext. 515.

Guidance office hours: Monday - Friday 7:45am—3:45pm

The MDHS Guidance Google Classroom provides all information guidance related: university, college, apprenticeship information, volunteer opportunities, mental health supports and much more. Join with this code: **g7d6eud**

Important Dates

April 24—28 Midterm Report Cards to be distributed electronically— **it is the student's responsibility to download/print report cards when they receive access to the link.**

April 24-28 Marks uploaded to OUAC/OCAS

May 1 Deadline to confirm College Offers of Admission (ontariocolleges.ca)

May 5 PA Day

May 6 Full disclosure date—courses dropped by this date will not show on a student's transcript

June Tuition Deposit Due at Colleges

* Many college programs continue to accept applications after February 1st. Use the Find a Program tool at any time to find programs that are still open.

Please check our guidance website for updates:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markhamdistrict.hs/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

Summer School — Registration opened April 15, 2025

How to Apply to Summer School at YRDSB

Students can register for summer school **My Pathway Planner (myBlueprint)**. On the Home Page, on the left hand side (Dashboard), click on "**Continuing Education**" and scroll down until you see "Online Summer Learning" or In-Person Learning.

If your student is requesting a summer school course that they had planned to take next school year, their original selection will be replaced with one of their alternates.

If your student is unable to complete their summer course, we will attempt to add this course to their timetable for next year. However, there is no guarantee that there will be a seat available in the original course selected.

Once registered, you **do NOT need** to print the sign off form that is provided. Students can only take **one** acceleration course during the summer session. Transportation is **not** provided for this program.

Students who were advised by their Guidance Counsellor to enroll in credit recovery based on their semester one final marks will also need to register as soon as possible. Please note, it is the student's responsibility to ensure they are registered for the appropriate course(s).

If students require assistance with the summer school registration process, please have them make an appointment with their alpha guidance counsellor.

Online Summer Learning

Courses that are specifically designed to be taught in a fully online format. Online learning does not require pupils and teachers to be face-to-face with each other. Classes occur online using an asynchronous model, with check-in opportunities with the teacher. The learning platform is Brightspace by D2L.

Dates: Wednesday, July 2 to Friday, July 25

Hours: Flexible (6 hours per day minimum)

In-Person Learning

Courses will be offered in a face-to-face learning model.

Dates: Wednesday, July 2 to Friday, July 25

Hours: 8:45 am to 3:33 pm

Locations: Bill Hogarth SS, Bur Oak SS, Keswick HS, Maple HS, Middlefield CI, Newmarket HS, Richmond Green SS, and Thornlea SS

Note: Summer school in-person learning is NOT being offered at MDHS this year.

Students will NOT be approved for both platforms. Choose EITHER Online OR In-Person.

Credit Recovery / Differentiated Support

Timelines via Student Success memo registration forms. Registration with limited availability.

Dates: Session 1 - July 2 to 14 and/or Session 2 - July 15 to 25

Hours: 8:45 am to 3:33 pm

Reinforcement (9 days per session)

For students who have not successfully earned the credit and have achieved a mark between 35% and 49% with the recommendation of the home school Principal.

Dates: Session 1 - July 2 to 14 and/or Session 2 - July 15 to 25



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

Post-Secondary Information

IMPORTANT DATES for UNIVERSITY APPLICANTS

- May 29** – Deadline for universities to make an offer admission, refusal or deferral
- June 2** – The earliest date a current Ontario high school student may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.). School-specific deadlines for students to make a financial commitment (deposit for tuition and/or residence) to their chosen university
- June 4** – Students who did not receive an offer of admission may begin to use the AIS system to search available programs (see your Counsellor for details)

IMPORTANT DATES for COLLEGE APPLICANTS

- May 1** **Deadline to Confirm Offers of Admission**— Applicants must confirm their acceptance of an offer of admission by this date. Log in to your ontariocolleges.ca account to **confirm your offer**.

Colleges may extend offers of admission after this date. Each college will set the deadline to confirm offers made after May 1st and this deadline will be communicated to you with your offer.

- June** **Tuition Deposit Due at the Colleges**— The colleges require payment of a tuition deposit in June to secure your spot in your program. Each college sets its own tuition deposit amount and payment deadline. This information will be communicated to you by the college.

Scholarship Report

The latest issue of the **Scholarship Report** contains listings with June/July deadlines as well as updates to scholarships listed in previous newsletters. The scholarships are listed according to application submission deadline. Just a reminder: All scholarships are linked directly to the scholarship's website. Just click on the name of the scholarship. In order to view, please use the following password if prompted, **scholar678**

Copy link into your browser:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:41d74fd3-419c-4b75-b6d5-abab32f3a29f>

Volunteer Hours

Grade 12 Potential Graduates

There are a large number of grade 12 students who have not completed their graduation requirement of 40 hours of Community Service. With your graduation quickly approaching it is essential that you submit your completed and approved community hours (40 hours). Community hours are a mandatory ministry requirement for you to be eligible to graduate. Don't delay, submit today!!!

There are many volunteer opportunities listed on the Google classroom. Join using code: **g7d6eud**





GUIDANCE BULLETIN

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

Apply to SHSM: <https://bit.ly@YRDSBSHSMStudentapp>

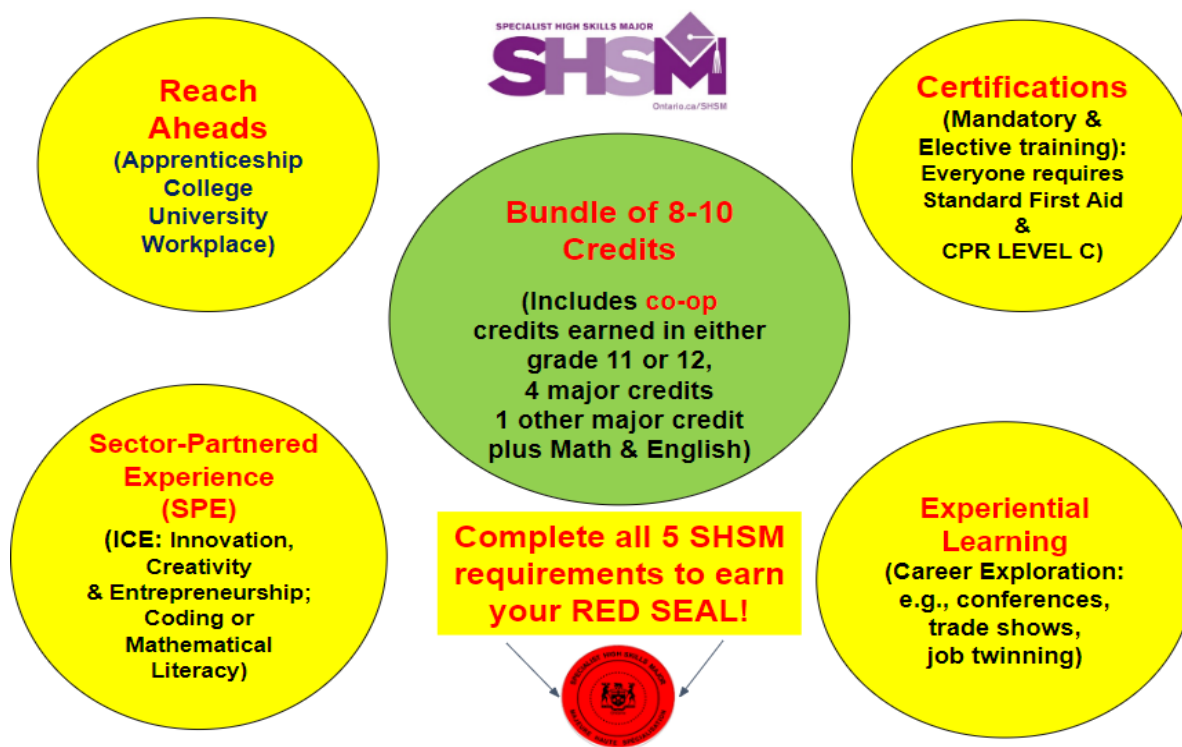
Students will receive a PDF once the application has been submitted. **Please print, and complete including with parent/guardian signatures and submit to Guidance.**

Why consider the Specialist High Skills Major program (SHSM)?

- ◆ Focus on a career path to match skills /interests, meeting Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- ◆ Students **must** take cooperative education in grade 11 or 12 to be eligible.
- ◆ 2-year program for students entering grade 11 (students may register if entering grade 12 and plan on completing coop.)
- ◆ Customize secondary school education to suit interests and skills
- ◆ Complete sector recognized certifications (including Standard First Aid/CPR-C)
- ◆ Prepare for post-secondary opportunities
- ◆ Earn the SHSM Distinction on the OSSD
- ◆ Engage in fun, experiential learning with like-minded peers
- ◆ Participation in training and field trips is **free for SHSM students.**



Specialist High Skills Major: 5 Required Components





GUIDANCE BULLETIN

SHSM Upcoming Field Trips

When: April 29, 2025
Where: University of Guelph (Leaving at 7:00 am – returning approximately 3:45 pm)
Sectors: Health & Wellness, Horticulture & Landscape, Non Profit, Education and Childcare
What: Reach Ahead and Experiential Learning (am & pm workshop, tour with time for lunch)
Workshop 1: The Gluten Project (hands-on activities)
Workshop 2: Fun with Food Function (hands-on experiments)

When: April 30, 2025
Where: Osgood Hall Law School (very limited space)
What: Reach Ahead and Experiential Learning
Explore: Learn about diverse career paths in law from professionals and organizations
Engage: Participate in hands-on discussions and workshops tailored to interests
Network: Build confidence and connections in a real-world professional setting
Chance for students to envision their futures, connect with mentors, and gain tools they need to succeed.

When: May 9, 2025 (leaving at 9:30 am - returning at 2:00 pm)
Where: OCAD (limited space)
What: Reach Ahead

When: May 14, 2025 (leaving at 8:00 am - returning approximately 4:00 pm)
Where: Centennial College (Ashtonbee Campus)
What: "Jill of All Trades" Reach Ahead and Experiential Learning

This is an initiative to encourage girls from grades 9-12 to consider a career in the skilled trades.
The day is filled with activities and hands-on learning designed to foster a better understanding and appreciation for skilled trades.

When: May 16, 2025
Where: Markham District High School Library (all day)
What: Sector Partnered Experience (Mandatory SHSM component)

- If students have already earned this requirement, they do not attend this session.
- If a student is in grade 12, this is their final opportunity to earn this requirement.
- If a student is in grade 11, there will be other opportunities next year, but they may want to complete the requirement this year.

PIZZA LUNCH provided (please indicate on the permission form if a student requires cheese/vegetarian (or gluten free).

