

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



**YOUR SKILLS,  
YOUR FUTURE.**

**AGRICULTURE**



# CREDITS

## 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 Agriculture sector.

Two credits in this bundle include Cooperative Education where students pursue a work placement in a field of interest.

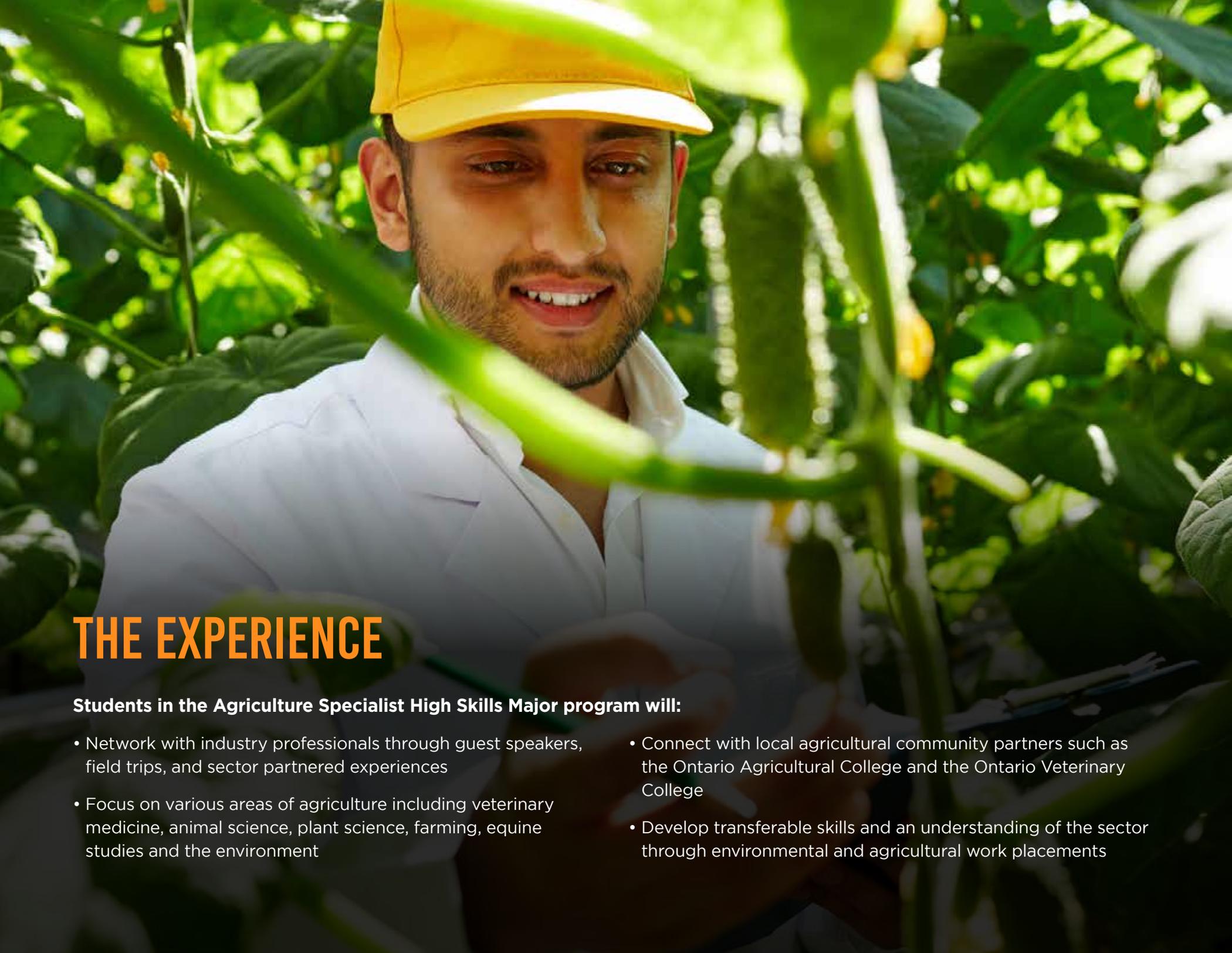
## Achievements in the Program

- **Certifications and Awareness Training:** Students complete selected sector-recognized certifications related to the major
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
  - > Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
  - > Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the Agriculture sector
  - > See guest speakers, go on field trips to explore careers in Agriculture
- Gain a **Sector Partnered Experiences (SPE)** component that includes one of the following options: Innovation Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) training; sector-delivered coding; or, sector-delivered mathematical literacy. The SPE will require a 6 hour activity, delivered with a sector partner and have an experiential and an assessment component
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Explore the field and postsecondary education opportunities in the Agriculture sector
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to **apprenticeship, college, university or work**



### The bundle includes:

- **4 “major” credits** in Agriculture in grade 11 and 12, such as Biology, Food Science, Construction and locally developed Agricultural focus courses
- **Supporting credits:**
  - > 1 English credit in grade 11 or 12
  - > 1 Math credit in grade 11 or 12
  - > 1 credit in Business Studies or Science in grade 11 or 12
  - > 2 Cooperative Education credits to experience life in the Agriculture sector

A man with a beard, wearing a white lab coat and a yellow cap, is smiling and looking at a plant in a greenhouse. He is holding a clipboard and pen. The background is filled with green plants and leaves.

## THE EXPERIENCE

**Students in the Agriculture Specialist High Skills Major program will:**

- Network with industry professionals through guest speakers, field trips, and sector partnered experiences
- Focus on various areas of agriculture including veterinary medicine, animal science, plant science, farming, equine studies and the environment
- Connect with local agricultural community partners such as the Ontario Agricultural College and the Ontario Veterinary College
- Develop transferable skills and an understanding of the sector through environmental and agricultural work placements



Canada's Agri-Food industry is drastically increasing. The world will require 70% more food by 2050 and Canada will help fill that demand. Ontario has more than half of Canada's available 'class 1' farmland and the sector employs approximately 158,000 people. Yet tens of thousands of jobs are left unfilled in the Agriculture industry.



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For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major Agriculture program, contact your school guidance counsellor, SHSM board lead or visit [Ontario.ca/SHSM](https://Ontario.ca/SHSM)

