



YOUR SKILLS ↻ YOUR FUTURE

Specialist High Skills Major Excellence Awards

Waterloo Catholic District School Board - 2025-26

Description:

One award will be presented to the deserving student from each Secondary School who has demonstrated motivation and change and has grown both personally and academically because of their involvement in the Specialist High Skills Major programs.

Award



- **The recipient will receive:** a framed certificate and monetary award
- Total award value is: **\$250 per student**
- **Sponsored by:** Link2EHS
- The school will receive a plaque recognizing the student.

Selection Criteria:

Students who are applying for the award must be **100% on track in the program** and will earn their Red Seal Diploma during the 2025-26 school year.

Students are required to submit a short essay (1 page max) and photo (preferably from their co-op placement) and describe how their involvement in SHSM affected their life. Students will provide examples of how they have accomplished the following criteria below in their short essay submission:

1. **Personal Growth** – How has your experience in the SHSM program positively impacted your individual confidence, maturity, and affirmation of your career choice?
2. **Focused Career Goals** – How has the SHSM program helped you to developing skills and experience in your future career/pathway through completion of the SHSM components?
3. **Advocacy for the SHSM Program** – How have you helped to promote the SHSM program within the school community? Are you a great representative of the program? Describe how you have encouraged other students into the Specialist High Skills Major program.

Submission Process:

Students must submit their short essay by email to the SHSM Lead Teacher at their school.

SHSM Lead Teachers will select the award winners and notify the student.

School	Submission Date	Submit to:	Contact Information:
Monsignor Doyle C.S.S	Friday, April 17, 2026	Mr. Marschall	Cresh.Marschall@wcdsb.ca
Resurrection C.S.S.	Wednesday, April 29, 2026	Ms. Moss	AnnMarie.Moss@wcdsb.ca
St. Benedict C.S.S	Wednesday, April 29, 2026	Ms. Grebinski	Stephanie.Grebinski@wcdsb.ca
St. David C.S.S	Friday, April 24, 2026	Ms. Dietrich	Kristen.Dietrich@wcdsb.ca
St. Mary's H.S.	Friday, April 24, 2026	Ms. Byrne	Christine.Byrne@wcdsb.ca

NOTE:

- SHSM Leads will arrange for the award winner to be recognized at their school's award assemblies or their graduation ceremony.
- All submissions will be forwarded to the SHSM Team at the Catholic Education Centre for future SHSM promotional uses.
- Names and photographs of recipients may be published in regional/school newsletters, local newspapers, Board website, etc. upon consent of the individuals concerned.