Explore High Skills is a Peel District School Board pathway program that allows secondary schools with Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs to offer a unique specialized program choice for grade 9 and 10 students.

Explore High Skills sector-related programs are available to students in all skill levels and in all pathways. Specialized programs in grade 9 provide unique learning experiences to engage students as they transition to high school. Students can focus their learning on an area of interest as they build self-confidence, learn essential skills, and develop a sense of belonging in school and in the community.

Explore High Skills programs reflect the following areas of teaching and learning:

**Curriculum connections**
Sector-related learning activities allow students to make direct connections between their classroom learning, career exploration, pathway plans and the workplace.

**Development of Learning Skills and the Individual Pathway Plan (IPP)**
The development of Ministry of Education Learning Skills (responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation) help students set short- and long-term goals in planning for their future.

**Experiential learning and certifications**
To prepare for learning and working in the sector, students participate in related community involvement and experiential learning, and earn sector-recognized certifications.

Students who participate in engaging learning experiences are more likely to be successful in reaching their goals.
Explore High Skills students will participate in:

- **focused learning activities** related to the sector that allow students to make connections between their learning and their pathway plans

- **community involvement** where students participate in 20 hours of approved, sector-related volunteer activities that count towards their high school diploma

- **learning skills** development with specific connections made to skills required in the workplace

- **certification and training** in grade 9 or 10 that is sector-recognized in the workplace

- an **experiential learning** activity in grade 9 or 10, supported by business, community, and/or industry partners

- **Individual Pathway Plan** (IPP) development in myBlueprint, including post-secondary planning, career exploration, resume building and more

For more information:
Visit [www.peelschools.org/ExploreHighSkills](http://www.peelschools.org/ExploreHighSkills) to learn more about the Explore High Skills program and school offerings. Visit your guidance department to discuss the program that interests you.