

THE COMPLETE SALARY REPORT · 2026

The 2026 Salary Report

Every salary card from the GSDC agentic AI salary page — plus the 4-band ladder, ROI scenarios for upskill and pivot pathways, employer comp data and the full **AAIPC · Certified Agentic AI Professional** syllabus.

Inside the report

✓ 20 salary cards · exp x region	✓ 4-band ladder · USA 2026
✓ ROI scenarios · upskill + pivot	✓ Employer compensation data
✓ 11 module syllabi · verbatim	✓ Sample exam · printable checklist

20
Salary cards
Exp x region

4
Salary bands
Entry → Staff

25-60%
Reported uplift
After credentialling

Credential: **AAIPC · Certified Agentic AI Professional** · Issued by **Global Skill Development Council** · Vendor-neutral · Recognized in 100+ countries.

Page one carries no calls-to-action by design. The salary cards begin on page two.

READING GUIDE

How to read this report

Five sections, in this order. Skip ahead if you already know your role.

Section	Pages	What you'll find
1 · 20-card matrix	5–6	Twenty salary cards organized as a 4-row x 5-column experience-by-region grid.
2 · 4-band ladder	7–8	USA major-metro ladder for 2026 — Entry → Mid → Senior → Staff.
3 · Region deep-dives	9–13	One page each for USA · UK · Germany · UAE · India deep-dives.
4 · ROI scenarios	14–16	Upskill ROI (currently in a role) and Pivot ROI (career switcher).
5 · Employer comp data	17–18	Bonus, equity, sign-on and benefits patterns by employer tier.
6 · Program & exam	19–24	11-module syllabus, sample exam, printable checklist and sample certificate.
7 · Closer	25–28	Employer view, negotiation playbook, FAQ and enrollment.

Methodology note: bands are *indicative annual base salary ranges* for 2026 in local currency. They exclude bonus, equity, sign-on and benefits. Bands vary by city tier, employer size and total-comp mix. Use as directional benchmarks for negotiation anchoring.

OVERVIEW

Headline numbers

25–60%

Reported uplift

After credentialling

< 6 mo

Typical payback

At half-price

250k+

Certified

AAIPC community

Three signals from the 2026 agentic AI salary market

- **Largest hiring band is mid-tier (3–5 yrs).** Demand currently outstripping supply across all 5 regions.
- **Top of band rewards production-agent experience.** Trajectory evals + safety vocabulary command 20–30% premiums.
- **Remote-first roles narrow the regional gap.** Non-US residents working for US-HQ firms close 60–80% of the band difference.

How AAIPC credential-holders use this report

- **To anchor a current-role salary review** with a region-specific benchmark from page 5.
- **To decide between staying and pivoting** using the ROI math on pages 14–16.
- **To negotiate an external offer** at band-anchored, not gut-anchored, levels.
- **To advise their team or cohort** on what to expect in their next move.

PAYBACK FRAMING

Will agentic AI pay you back?

The honest framing: AAIPC pays back if you use it. Below: how readers actually convert the credential into salary movement in 2026.

Mechanism	Who it fits	Typical uplift
1 · Re-band internally	Stays in current role; AAIPC triggers re-banding to an AI-fluent tier.	10–25%
2 · Internal lateral	Stays in firm; moves into an agentic-adjacent seat (engineering / PMO / ops).	15–35%
3 · External move	Switches firm to take an agentic AI seat. Often remote.	30–60%
4 · Career pivot	Comes from an adjacent function (engineering, product, ops, consulting).	Variable · base set by new role band, not old.

How to use this report depending on your mechanism

- **Re-band (1):** read pages 5–8 for your region + USA ladder; cite the band in your review.
- **Internal lateral (2):** read pages 5–8 and the employer comp page (17–18).
- **External move (3):** read pages 5–13 and the negotiation playbook (page 26).
- **Career pivot (4):** read the Pivot ROI scenario on page 16 first; then everything else.

RELATED · NEXT STEP

[50% OFF]

Move into the bands you're about to read

Every band in this report is reachable through the AAIPC credential. Enroll while the half-price window is open.

Enroll & Save 50% →

Tap anywhere on this card →

20-CARD MATRIX

The 20 salary cards - part 1

Twenty salary cards organized as a 4-row x 5-region grid. This page shows experience tiers Entry and Mid (10 cards). Page 6 covers Senior and Staff (10 cards). All figures are 2026 annual base in local currency.

	USA	UK (GBP)	Germany (EUR)	UAE (USD)	India (INR)
Entry 0-2 yrs	USD 100-150k Major metro	GBP 55-80k London	EUR 60-85k Berlin / Frankfurt	USD 65-90k Dubai · tax-free	INR 14-24 L Bengaluru / Hyderabad
Mid 3-5 yrs	USD 140-200k Major metro	GBP 80-120k London	EUR 85-125k Berlin / Frankfurt	USD 95-135k Dubai · tax-free	INR 24-48 L Bengaluru / Hyderabad

Reader hint: the *Entry* row is the band the credential most consistently moves you onto. Most readers without prior agent-production experience land here after AAIPC + a working capstone.

20-CARD MATRIX

The 20 salary cards - part 2

Senior and Staff tiers across the same 5 regions. These bands reward demonstrable production-agent experience, eval craft and architectural ownership.

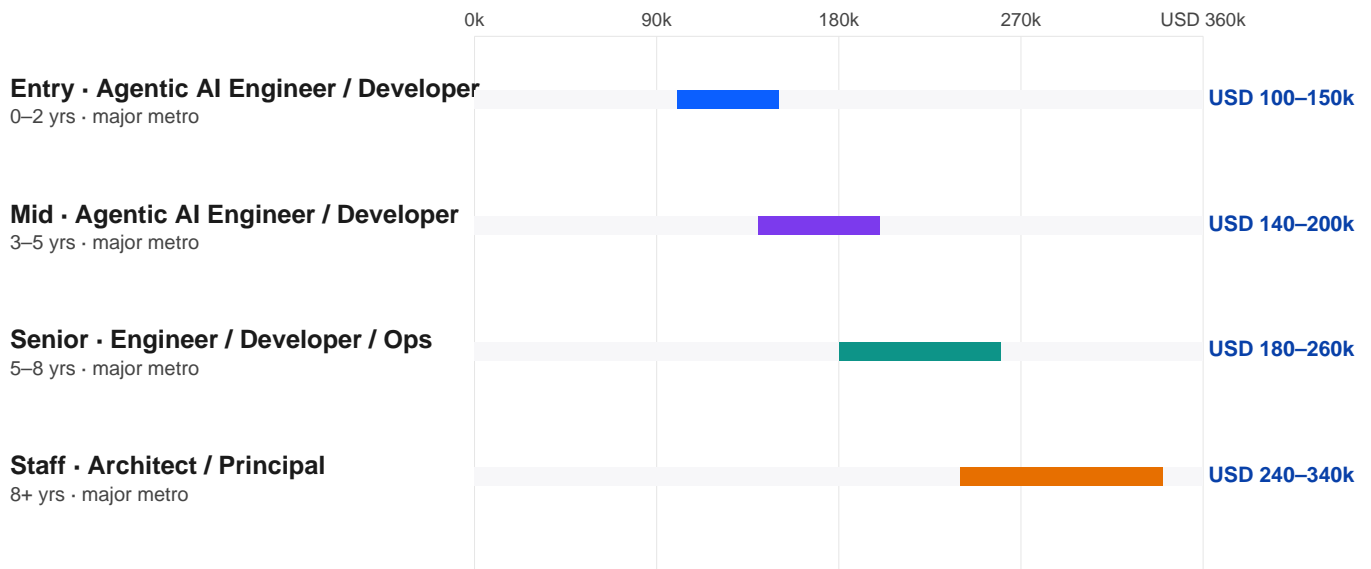
	USA	UK (GBP)	Germany (EUR)	UAE (USD)	India (INR)
Senior 5–8 yrs	USD 180–260k Major metro	GBP 115–165k London	EUR 120–175k Berlin / Frankfurt	USD 135–185k Dubai · tax-free	INR 48–80 L Bengaluru / Hyderabad
Staff 8+ yrs	USD 240–340k Major metro TOP	GBP 160–230k London	EUR 170–240k Berlin / Frankfurt	USD 180–260k Dubai · tax-free	INR 75–130 L Bengaluru / Hyderabad

Where the spreads widen: the Staff band's top quartile (NYC / SF Bay) commands 20–30% above the USD 240–340k base shown — driven by equity and sign-on. Treat the displayed range as the *base-only* view.

4-BAND LADDER

USA 4-band salary ladder · 2026

Indicative USA annual base salary bands across the four seniority levels. Major-metro base; excludes bonus, equity and sign-on. NYC / SF Bay typically sits 20–30% higher.



How the bands compound

- **Entry** → **Mid**: typical 40% jump on base. Triggered by 1–2 years of production-agent work after AAIPC.
- **Mid** → **Senior**: typical 30% jump. Eval craft and safety vocabulary are the rate-limiting skills.
- **Senior** → **Staff**: typical 35% jump. Architecture ownership and mentoring become the differentiator.
- **Cumulative Entry** → **Staff (8 yrs)**: 2.5–3.0x base, before bonus and equity.

TOP MARKETS

The NYC / SF Bay premium

Within the USA, NYC and SF Bay sit consistently above the major-metro ladder. The premium is real but mixed across base, bonus and equity. The table below makes the split explicit.

Tier	Major-metro base (USD)	NYC / SF Bay base (USD)	Total-comp premium*
Entry · 0–2 yrs	100–150k	120–180k	+15–25%
Mid · 3–5 yrs	140–200k	170–245k	+20–30%
Senior · 5–8 yrs	180–260k	220–320k	+25–35%
Staff · 8+ yrs	240–340k	300–430k	+30–45%

* Total-comp premium includes typical bonus and equity differentials at these top markets. Excludes sign-on and benefits.

Where the premium does NOT apply

- **Remote at a US-HQ employer:** bands typically track major-metro, not NYC / SF Bay.
- **Public sector / academic posts:** often pegged to lower bands regardless of city.
- **Contract / freelance:** day rates set by deliverable risk, not city — see page 13.

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

[LIMITED TIME]

The half-price window is open — for now

The current enrollment bracket sits inside a limited-time discount window. Lock in your seat before it closes for the quarter.

[Reserve My Seat →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

REGION DEEP-DIVE

USA - region deep-dive

The largest agentic AI hiring market in 2026. Across enterprise, consulting, frontier-AI firms, banks, fintech and SaaS — the USA bands set the global anchor.

City tier	Mid-band example	Hot specialism	Cost-of-living signal
NYC / SF Bay	Mid USD 170–245k	Frontier-AI firms (Anthropic-, OpenAI-style) and elite quant funds.	Highest in the country; equity premium compensates.
Boston / Seattle / DC	Mid USD 150–215k	Big tech R&D, defense / public sector, healthcare AI.	High; lower than NYC / SF Bay but still top quartile.
Austin / Chicago / LA / Atlanta	Mid USD 140–200k	Distributed engineering teams of frontier and big-tech firms.	Moderate; the major-metro band is the anchor.
Charlotte / Denver / Salt Lake / Pittsburgh	Mid USD 130–180k	Banks / fintech / regional engineering hubs.	Lower; faster compounding on after-tax pay.
Remote (US-HQ employer)	Mid USD 130–180k	Roles staffed across distributed US-HQ teams.	Tracks home city; not the HQ city.

Where to anchor your USA negotiation: always anchor against your *home city* tier, not the employer's HQ tier. Remote-friendly employers re-anchor to the home city before making the offer.

REGION DEEP-DIVE

UK - region deep-dive

London anchors the UK market. Outside London, Edinburgh and Manchester host meaningful agentic AI teams but at 15–25% below London bands.

City tier	Mid-band example	Hot specialism	Notes
London (Zone 1)	Mid GBP 80–120k	Frontier-AI labs (DeepMind-style), top banks and tier-1 consulting.	Bonus + equity differentials largest here.
Edinburgh / Manchester / Bristol	Mid GBP 65–95k	Distributed engineering teams; insurance and banking AI.	
Cambridge / Oxford	Mid GBP 75–110k	Research-anchored labs; spin-out engineering teams.	Premium for vendor-neutral framework fluency.
Remote (UK-HQ)	Mid GBP 60–90k	Cross-firm remote engineering seats.	Bands closer to non-London regional centres.

UK-specific signals to watch

- **The right-to-work signal** matters more than usual; UK visa pathway closures shifted hiring towards onshore candidates.
- **Banking AI roles** rose sharply in 2026 — agentic systems for KYC, AML and customer-comms.
- **Pension & benefits** meaningfully change the comparison vs USA bands; factor in employer pension contributions.

REGION DEEP-DIVE

Germany & continental EU - region deep-dive

Germany anchors continental Europe. Berlin and Munich host the largest agentic AI hiring pools; Frankfurt anchors banking. Paris and Amsterdam track close behind.

City tier	Mid-band example	Hot specialism
Berlin / Munich (EUR)	EUR 85–125k	Startup-side engineering, SaaS, manufacturing AI.
Frankfurt (EUR)	EUR 90–130k	Banking AI; agentic systems for risk and compliance.
Paris (EUR)	EUR 80–120k	Consulting AI practices; luxury and retail.
Amsterdam (EUR)	EUR 85–125k	Tech-friendly tax regime; English-language teams.
Zurich (CHF)	CHF 140–195k	Banking AI; pharma AI.
Stockholm / Copenhagen (EUR equiv.)	EUR 80–115k	Nordic tech ecosystems; enterprise AI rollouts.

EU-specific signals to watch

- **AI Act compliance roles** are creating new agentic governance seats across the bloc.
- **Permanent contracts** dominate; less equity-heavy comp than USA.
- **13th / 14th month pay** in Germany / Austria adds 8–17% on top of headline base.
- **Switzerland (CHF)** sits ~30% above EUR bands; tax regime varies sharply by canton.

REGION DEEP-DIVE

UAE & GCC - region deep-dive

Dubai and Riyadh are the fastest-growing agentic AI markets outside the West. UAE / Saudi salaries are quoted in USD and largely tax-free for foreign nationals — a meaningful uplift on after-tax base.

City tier	Mid-band example (USD)	Hot specialism
Dubai (UAE)	USD 95–135k	Banking AI; sovereign wealth AI; smart-city programmes.
Abu Dhabi (UAE)	USD 100–145k	G42-led AI ecosystem; energy + sovereign-AI engineering.
Riyadh / Jeddah (Saudi)	USD 95–135k	Vision 2030-anchored AI initiatives; banking AI.
Doha (Qatar)	USD 90–125k	Banking + energy AI; sovereign initiatives.
Bahrain / Kuwait	USD 80–115k	Banking AI; smaller programmes; consulting practices.

HALF-PRICE CERTIFICATION

[50% OFF]

Same credential, same exam — at half the cost

All 11 modules, 50+ Learn-by-Doing labs, the live cohort, sample exams and the recognized digital badge — at fifty percent off.

[Claim My 50% Discount →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

REGION DEEP-DIVE

India - region deep-dive (and the freelance market)

Bengaluru and Hyderabad anchor the Indian agentic AI market. Pune, Mumbai, Gurugram and Chennai follow. The freelance / contract market is meaningful here and globally — covered on this page too.

City tier	Mid-band example (INR)	Hot specialism
Bengaluru / Hyderabad	INR 24–48 L	Distributed engineering of US-HQ firms; SaaS-AI startups.
Pune / Gurugram	INR 20–38 L	Banking AI; enterprise transformation programmes.
Mumbai	INR 22–42 L	Banking AI; consulting practices; fintech.
Chennai	INR 18–32 L	Engineering-services AI; manufacturing AI.
Remote (India)	INR 22–45 L	Roles staffed by US/UK/EU-HQ firms; equity sometimes included.

Freelance / contract day-rate benchmarks (global)

Tier	USA / UK day rate (USD)	EU day rate (EUR)	India day rate (INR)
Entry · 0–2 yrs	USD 350–600	EUR 300–550	INR 12,000–25,000
Mid · 3–5 yrs	USD 600–1,100	EUR 550–950	INR 25,000–55,000
Senior · 5–8 yrs	USD 1,000–1,800	EUR 900–1,500	INR 50,000–1,00,000
Staff · 8+ yrs	USD 1,500–2,800	EUR 1,300–2,300	INR 90,000–1,80,000

Day rates set per-deliverable risk — model evals, governance artifacts, capstones — command the top of each band. A rate card is the non-negotiable freelance artifact.

ROI · UPSKILL

ROI scenario - upskill from current role

The most common reader: currently employed in an engineering, product, ops or consulting role. Adds AAIPC to existing skill set, re-bands or moves laterally. Below: the math, by region.

Region	Mid-tier current base	Lift needed for < 12-mo payback	Typical reported uplift
USA (USD)	140–200k	≈ 1–2% on base	25–60%
UK (GBP)	80–120k	≈ 1–2% on base	20–55%
Germany (EUR)	85–125k	≈ 1–2% on base	20–50%
UAE (USD)	95–135k	≈ 1–2% on base	25–55%
India (INR)	24–48 L	≈ 2–4% on base	25–60%

Even at the conservative end of the reported uplift, the math works inside the first review cycle in every region. The half-price window pulls payback under six months for most upskill-pathway readers.

Upskill pathway · 90-day plan

- **Days 1–30:** AAIPC foundations and pattern selection; first capstone scope drafted.
- **Days 31–60:** tool surface, evals, governance — finish the capstone scope.
- **Days 61–90:** ship the capstone; sit the exam; raise re-band conversation with manager.

ROI · WORKED CASES

Upskill ROI · concrete examples

Five worked examples of how upskill ROI plays out in practice. All figures are illustrative for 2026 and exclude bonus, equity and sign-on.

Profile	Before	After AAIPC	Net annual uplift
USA engineer · mid	USD 150k	USD 195k (mid → senior re-band)	+USD 45k
UK PM · mid	GBP 90k	GBP 115k (lateral to agentic PM)	+GBP 25k
Germany ops engineer · mid	EUR 90k	EUR 120k (lateral to AgentOps)	+EUR 30k
UAE consultant · mid	USD 105k	USD 145k (external move to enterprise AI)	+USD 40k
India engineer · mid	INR 28L	INR 42L (external move to US-HQ remote)	+INR 14L

What changes between the examples: the mechanism. Some upskill via re-banding (stay in role), some via lateral (stay in firm), and some via external move. The credential opens all three doors.

ROI · PIVOT

ROI scenario - pivot from adjacent function

The career-switcher path. Coming from engineering (non-AI), product, ops, consulting, data science, or even adjacent industries. The salary comparison is different — your *new* base is set by the new role's band, not your old one.

From	Common landing role (AAIPC + capstone)	USA mid-band target
Backend / fullstack engineer	Agentic AI Engineer (Entry → Mid)	USD 130–200k
Data scientist / ML engineer	Agentic AI Engineer · ML/Agent overlap (Mid)	USD 150–225k
Product manager (non-AI)	AI Product Manager (Agents)	USD 140–210k
DevOps / SRE	Agentic Ops / Platform Engineer	USD 150–215k
Consulting (digital transformation)	Enterprise agent solutioning · advisory	USD 140–200k
Data analyst / BI engineer	Agentic AI Developer (Entry)	USD 100–150k

Pivot pathway timeline: 4–6 months end-to-end is typical. AAIPC + capstone (8–12 weeks) followed by 8–14 weeks of targeted job search. The credential is the single largest signal that compresses this timeline.

UPSKILL OR PIVOT

[50% OFF]

The credential built for both pathways

Upskill into an agentic seat from your current role — or pivot from an adjacent function. Same AAIPC, same exam, two pathways.

[Start My Pathway →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

TOTAL COMP

Employer compensation data - beyond base

Base salary is half the story. Below: typical bonus, equity and sign-on patterns by employer tier in 2026. Use this page to evaluate offers on a total-comp basis.

Employer tier	Bonus	Equity	Sign-on
Frontier-AI (OpenAI, Anthropic, DeepMind tier)	10–20% target	Significant; vests over 4 yrs; cliff at 1 yr.	USD 25–100k typical
Big-tech (Microsoft, Amazon, Meta, Google)	10–25% target	Significant; tiered by level; refresh grants annual.	USD 20–80k typical
Top-tier consulting (BCG, McKinsey, Deloitte digital, Accenture AI)	15–35% target	Profit share / partnership track at senior tiers.	Rare; relocation common.
Banks & fintech (JPMorgan, Goldman, top fintechs)	20–40% target	Stock for VP+; deferred bonus tranches.	USD 20–50k typical
Mid-stage AI startups (Series B–D)	0–10% target	Material equity; often single-digit % at early roles.	Rare; equity is the lever.
Early-stage AI startups (Seed–A)	0%	Highest equity %; below-market base.	Rare.
Public sector / NGOs	0–5%	None; pension equivalents.	Rare.

TOTAL COMP

Benefits, perks and the hidden comp

Beyond bonus, equity and sign-on, benefits routinely add 10–25% to a USA agentic AI offer. Below: the patterns most readers under-value at offer stage.

Category	USA pattern	What it's worth
401(k) match	Typically 4–6% of base; some big-tech offers 50% match up to 8%.	USD 6–15k / yr on a mid base
Health insurance	Employer covers 70–90% of premium; family plans add cost.	USD 8–20k / yr equivalent
Paid time off	15–25 days PTO + 8–12 holidays + sick leave; unlimited common at top tier.	Hard to monetize; tracks 5–8% of base.
Stock purchase plan (ESPP)	Common at big-tech; 5–15% discount on stock.	USD 1–5k / yr depending on participation
Learning & development	Annual budget USD 1.5–5k for courses, books, conferences.	USD 2–5k / yr
Home office / wellness stipend	USD 500–3,000 per year; common at remote-first firms.	USD 0.5–3k / yr
Parental leave	12–26 weeks paid at top employers; statutory minimum elsewhere.	Significant; time-shifted comp
Visa / relocation	Worth USD 10–50k+ on H-1B / O-1 / TN cases; varies by employer.	Variable; non-cash but real

Offer evaluation rule: always add roughly 15–20% to a USA base figure when comparing across employer tiers. A USD 180k base at a top-tier employer with a 6% match, family health and 20 days PTO is worth materially more than the headline.

SYLLABUS

The 11-module syllabus - verbatim

The full AAIPC syllabus. Each module ships at least one recruiter-readable artifact via its Learn-by-Doing labs. The exam draws across all 11.

#	Module	Phase	Key LBD ships
M01	Agentic AI foundations	Foundations	Glossary · workflow map · “where agents fit” rubric
M02	LLM craft for agents	Foundations	Context budget · structured outputs · trace analysis
M03	Patterns: single-step → multi-agent	Architecture	Pattern decision matrix · architecture diagram
M04	Tools & tool surfaces	Architecture	Tool surface spec · approval gates · test set
M05	Memory · state · retrieval	Architecture	Scratchpad design · memory strategy
M06	Building multi-step & multi-agent	Build	Working agent prototypes · graph flow · failure-injection test
M07	Evals · trajectories · gold sets	Build	Trajectory eval harness · gold set · refusal evals
M08	Safety · controls · injection defence	Govern	Capability boundary · kill-switch · injection tests
M09	Governance · ethics · disclosure	Govern	Fairness audit · agentic system card · regulator transcript
M10	Production · rollout · ops	Ship	Rollout plan · on-call playbook · monitoring spec
M11	Capstone + exam prep	Capstone	Deployed agent with evals · controls · exec summary

Total LBDs: 50+ across the 11 modules. Each LBD produces a named, recruiter-readable artifact — the portfolio recruiters open during the screen.

EXAM

Sample exam structure

The AAIPC exam tests application, not recitation. The structure mirrors real practitioner decisions across the 11 modules and 50+ LBDs.

Item	Detail
Credential code	AAIPC · Certified Agentic AI Professional
Format	Multiple-choice + scenario items + applied mini-case
Items	Approx. 50–70 items
Duration	Approx. 75–120 minutes
Open book	No · closed-book online proctored
Passing line	Set by GSDC psychometric review · communicated at booking
Retake policy	Retakes allowed per the GSDC retake policy
Validity	Lifetime credential · refresh recommended every 2 years
Recognition	Recognized in 100+ countries
Vendor-neutrality	Coverage across LangGraph · CrewAI · AutoGen · OpenAI Assistants
Money-back	7-day money-back guarantee per the GSDC refund policy

FIRST-REVIEW PAYBACK

[50% OFF]

A credential that pays back in the first review

Most AAIPC credential-holders recoup the fee inside the first salary review. The half-price window pulls payback even faster.

[See the ROI →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

EXAM PREP

Sample exam questions

Four sample items in the style of the real AAIPC exam. Illustrative only — the live exam has 50–70 items.

Q1. Which artifact is the **most** appropriate **first** output when scoping a new agentic use case?

- A. Production-ready code for the multi-step agent.
- B. A finished model card.
- C. A one-page use-case brief: problem · users · data · metrics · risks · controls.
- D. A blog post about agentic AI patterns.

Answer: C · A concise use-case brief aligns engineering, risk, business and the PM early. It is the standard first artifact.

Q2. An engineer is designing an agent that reads from a database and posts to a ticketing system. Which tool-surface design is **most** defensible?

- A. All tools (read and write) exposed without approval gates.
- B. Read-only tools exposed directly; write tools gated behind explicit human approval.
- C. Write tools exposed directly; read-only tools gated behind explicit human approval.
- D. All tools gated; the agent cannot act without a human button each time.

Answer: B · Read-only tools are low-risk; write tools materially change state and warrant a human gate.

Q3. What does a trajectory eval test that a single-output eval doesn't?

- A. Whether the model picked the right final answer.
- B. Whether the model's intermediate steps (tool calls, reasoning, retries) led to the right outcome.
- C. How many tokens the model consumed.
- D. The final response's similarity to a reference string.

Answer: B · Trajectory evals examine the multi-step path the agent took, not just the final string.

Q4. A production agent starts refusing valid requests after a model update. Which is the **most** appropriate **first** response?

- A. Disable the agent entirely until the model is downgraded.
- B. Check refusal-correctness evals; if they regressed, roll back via feature flag and notify on-call.
- C. Ignore — refusals on valid requests are not a real incident.
- D. Re-train the model on the missed requests.

Answer: B · Refusal-correctness is a standard eval slice. A regression warrants rollback through the staged-rollout machinery.

CHECKLIST

Printable salary-negotiation checklist

Print this page. Tick each box before the salary conversation — review, offer or internal re-band. The bands on pages 5–13 translate into real numbers only when you've prepared.

Section A · Anchor your role & region

- I have identified my target tier (Entry / Mid / Senior / Staff) on the 4-band ladder.
- I have located my home city on the region deep-dive (pages 9–13).
- I have a specific mid-band figure to anchor against (not a range).
- I know the NYC / SF Bay premium (page 8) if I'm applying to top-tier markets.

Section B · Frame your credential + artifacts

- I can name AAIPC in one sentence (Certified Agentic AI Professional · GSDC · vendor-neutral).
- I have a capstone agent or working artifact I can reference by name.
- I can name 2–3 specific LBDs that map to capabilities the JD asks for.
- I have the credential and badge live on my LinkedIn before the conversation.

Section C · Total-comp readiness

- I have identified the employer's tier (frontier / big-tech / consulting / bank / startup).
- I know typical bonus, equity and sign-on expectations for that tier (page 17).
- I have an offer comparison sheet that adds ~15-20% for benefits (page 18).
- I know which level of the ladder I'm targeting, and the lift % I'm asking for.

Section D · The conversation itself

- I have practiced the three phrases on page 26 out loud.
- I have decided what I will accept vs counter on.
- I have decided what my walk-away number is.
- I have a backup plan if the conversation stalls.

CERTIFICATE

Sample certificate

Below is a stylised preview of the digital certificate issued on completion. The live certificate is dated, individually numbered, and accompanied by a verifiable digital badge you can share on LinkedIn, your CV and email signature.



Verification: every certificate is independently verifiable at gsdcouncil.org/verify using the credential ID printed on the certificate. The same verification link sits on the digital badge.

EMPLOYER VIEW

The employer view in 2026

Hiring teams across the USA, UK, EU, GCC and India screen against a consistent shape even when their JDs read very differently. AAIPC moves the needle *before* the interview — at the stages where most candidates get filtered out.

Where AAIPC moves the needle first

Stage	How AAIPC moves the needle
Recruiter screen	Globally recognized credential reduces the “unknown candidate” discount.
ATS filter	AAIPC + canonical agentic keywords lifts you past automated keyword scans.
First call	“Tell me about your agentic AI work” has a credible answer: the capstone.
Hiring-manager interview	Vendor-neutral fluency lets you talk patterns across LangGraph, CrewAI, AutoGen.
Late-stage / panel	Capstone + evals evidence becomes the second-to-last conversation in the loop.
Offer / band placement	Salary conversation anchors against the 4-band ladder, not gut figures.

OFFER VALID FOR 48 HOURS

[48 HOURS ONLY]

Your 50% offer expires in 48 hours

This discount bracket runs for 48 hours from the moment you opened the report. Don't let these bands stay theoretical.

[Activate Offer Now →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

FAQ

Frequently asked questions

Question	Short answer
Are these salary bands guaranteed?	No. Bands are indicative 2026, before bonus and equity. Use directionally.
Where do the figures come from?	Triangulation across public salary data sources for 2026 + GSDC's certified community.
How long does AAIPC realistically take?	Typically 8–12 weeks at 5–7 focused hours per week.
Will agentic AI replace my job?	Depends on the task. Pure rule-based work compresses; designing / governing agents amplifies.
Do I need prior production-agent experience?	No. AAIPC + a working capstone clears the “0 prior experience” entry filter.
Which agentic framework should I learn first?	AAIPC is vendor-neutral. Pick one (e.g. LangGraph) and learn the patterns.
Is the credential globally recognized?	Yes — recognized in 100+ countries; 250,000+ certified.
What about remote-first agentic AI roles?	Significant share of the market. Bands typically track home city, not employer HQ city.
What if I fail the exam?	Retakes allowed per the GSDC retake policy. Two sample exams + mock viva included.
What if the program isn't a fit?	GSDC offers a 7-day money-back guarantee per its refund policy.

NEGOTIATION

The negotiation playbook

How readers use this report inside a real salary conversation. Pages 5–13 matter most when they translate into language the hiring manager and HR partner accept.

Step	What you do	What you cite
1 · Anchor your tier	Pick your tier on the 4-band ladder (page 7).	Tier name and mid-band figure.
2 · Anchor your region	Locate yourself in the 20-card grid (pages 5–6) and the region deep-dive (9–13).	Region-specific mid-band in local currency.
3 · Frame total comp	Add typical bonus, equity, sign-on and benefits (pages 17–18).	Employer-tier patterns; ~15–20% benefits add.
4 · Cite the credential	Name AAIPC, the capstone and 2–3 named LBDs.	Credential ID + the capstone deliverable.
5 · Make the ask	Anchor at band mid-to-high, not the very top.	“Reported uplift 25–60%; asking the conservative end.”

Phrases that land

- *“Based on the GSDC 2026 agentic AI salary report, mid-band for [tier] in [region] sits at [figure]. I’d like to anchor around that benchmark.”*
- *“With AAIPC and the capstone, I’m shipping artifacts at the band **above** my current band.”*
- *“The 25–60% reported uplift is typical for credential-holders; I’m asking the conservative end.”*

GETTING STARTED

How to start this week

Five moves to take this week — even before you enroll — to line up your salary conversation around the report.

Move	What you do	Time
1 · Pick your target tier	Locate yourself on the 4-band ladder (page 7). Note your mid-band figure.	10 min
2 · Pick your region	Read your region deep-dive (pages 9–13). Note any city-specific differences.	15 min
3 · Pick your mechanism	Re-band, internal lateral, external move, or career pivot (page 4). Pick one.	10 min
4 · Update your LinkedIn	Add AAIPC + agentic AI keywords. Schedule the credential into your headline.	30 min
5 · Block your weekly study slot	Block 5–7 hours per week for the AAIPC pathway over the next 8–12 weeks.	5 min

By the time you start Module 1, you already know your tier, your region, your mechanism, and your asking band. The program then accelerates everything else.

NEXT COHORT INTAKE

[50% OFF]

Join the next AAIPC cohort intake

Daily live sessions, peer cohort, capstone agent shipped end-to-end. Move from report reader to enrolled candidate in under two minutes.

[Join the Next Cohort →](#)

Tap anywhere on this card →

ENROLLMENT

Move into the bands

You've read the cards, the ladder, the regions and the ROI math. The next step is starting the credential. Access opens immediately; your cohort is assigned within 24 hours; Module 1 is waiting in the LMS.

Step	What happens
1 · Click any CTA in this report	You land on the official salary / AAIPC program page.
2 · Apply your offer at checkout	Your 50% discount is auto-applied within the offer window.
3 · Complete enrolment	Your access details, cohort schedule and SME introduction arrive in your inbox.
4 · Start Module 1	Open the GSDC Live Studio and begin the 8–12 week pathway.

Direct contact

Program page: gsdcouncil.org/certification-program/agent-ai-salary
Issuing body: Global Skill Development Council (GSDC)
Vendor-neutral: Yes · framework-neutral coverage
Recognition: 100+ countries · 250,000+ certified
Credential code: AAIPC · Certified Agent AI Professional

GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED **[50% OFF]**

A credential recognized in 100+ countries

Salary conversations don't stop at the USA. Add a recognized GSDC credential to your LinkedIn, CV and recruiter screens — at half the standard fee.

[Get Certified Globally →](#) *Tap anywhere on this card →*

Thank you for reading the 2026 salary report. We'll see you inside one of the bands.