

The Real World Launches AI Credential Standard as Market Reaches Saturation

New expert-verified framework requires members to demonstrate applied skills, with each certificate approved by an industry expert, not automated grading.

MIAMI, FL, UNITED STATES, June 8, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- New Era Learning LLC, the company behind online education platform [The Real World](#), today announced the launch of a new [Campus Graduation Certificate framework](#). Unlike credentials issued at scale by major technology companies, the certificate is awarded only after a member demonstrates applied skills, with each submission reviewed and personally approved by an industry expert.



Sample of The Real World's new Campus Graduation Certificate from New Era Learning LLC. Each certificate requires manual sign-off from a campus expert.

The framework arrives as employer confidence in traditional AI certifications continues to erode. A 2026 DataCamp survey of more than 500 enterprise leaders in the US and UK found that 82% now offer AI training, yet 59% still report an AI skills gap among their workforces. The proportion of job seekers pursuing AI credentials nearly doubled between 2022 and 2024, rising from 17% to 35%, according to a Gartner CIO survey. Training programs that explain AI concepts without requiring learners to apply them produce familiarity rather than verifiable competence.

The market is also moving toward scale. OpenAI has announced plans to certify 10 million Americans by 2030. The contrast with individually verified credentials, where each certificate requires expert sign-off, defines a different category of product.

"Certification programs from major technology companies add real value to the market, but certificates issued at scale without an individual expert signing off on each student are a different category of product," said Mark Berringer, spokesperson for New Era Learning LLC. "For some companies, the certificate is a revenue line. For us, it is a standard of proof."

How the Certification Works

The framework is integrated into The Real World's curriculum across more than 10 specialized campuses, including AI automation, e-commerce, content creation, and client acquisition. Key components include:

- Expert-led verification: every credential requires manual sign-off from a campus expert, with no automated grading or batch issuance permitted.
- Public verification: each certificate includes a publicly shareable verification link for use with external employers and clients.
- Marketplace access: graduation grants entry into the TRW Marketplace, the platform's internal contract economy where certified members can bid on paid work.
- Included in standard membership: the certification process is part of the \$99 monthly membership, with no separate certification fees.



The Real World logo, an online education platform from New Era Learning LLC.

The structural demand for verified AI skills continues to grow. AI and machine learning employment is projected to nearly triple by 2027, with a shortage of more than 700,000 AI workers expected to persist, according to Validated Insights research.



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Mark Berringer, New Era Learning LLC

About New Era Learning

New Era Learning LLC is an education company developing online learning programs for the digital economy through practitioner-led mentorship and learning applications. Learn more at www.neweralearning.org.

About The Real World

The Real World is an online education platform with more than 155,000 active members across more than 10 specialized campuses, including AI automation, e-

commerce, content creation, and client acquisition. Each campus is led by industry-expert coaches who deliver curriculum where members build professional skills for the modern economy.

Disclaimer

All curriculum is for educational purposes only. Individual results depend on personal effort and implementation. The Real World does not guarantee specific financial outcomes.

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