How to Make Money with AI in 2026

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Stage 1: Freelancing with AI Modules

Core Idea: Use **n8n templates** as "Lego blocks" to deliver automation projects without coding everything from scratch.

The B.U.I.L.D. Framework

- **B – Block by Block:** Start with one template.

- **U – Understand Use Case:** Match templates to industries (AI receptionist → dentists, support agent → e-commerce, newsletter agent → coaches).

- **I – Install & Imitate:** Import, test, and record a 2-min demo.

- **L – Land First Client:** Pitch with demo, targeting businesses who need that exact block.

- **D – Document & Duplicate:** Measure results, create case studies, move to the next template.

Case Study – Jerome

- Used a newsletter-writing template.

- Tweaked prompts for client's brand.

- Automated 90% of content creation → **20+ hours saved monthly**.

- Client paid for outcome, not just template.

Scores

- **Speed to money:** 8/10 (first deal in days).

- **Ease for beginners:** 6/10 (templates lower barrier, but framing value matters).

- **Income potential:** 3/10 (caps at mid-high 4 figures unless you evolve).

Action Steps

1. Pick one template.

2. Learn it deeply.

3. Record a short demo.

4. Pitch to 5 businesses who clearly need it.

Stage 2: AI Consulting

Core Idea: Move from selling single automations to **auditing businesses and designing roadmaps**. Charge for clarity + implementation.

The S.C.A.N. Framework

- **S – Study the Business:** Discovery calls, find bottlenecks and costs.

- **C – Calculate Opportunity:** Show ROI in numbers (e.g., $140k savings).

- **A – Architect Solution:** Mix of templates + custom builds.

- **N – Narrate Results:** Package ROI into case studies and share publicly.

Case Study – Solo Consulting Project

- Client wanted a personal assistant.

- Discovery uncovered **customer support bottleneck**.

- Built knowledge base + AI draft replies → live 24/7 support.

- Saved 10+ hours/week, happier customers, scalable system.

Scores

- **Speed to money:** 6/10 (audit retainers close fast).

- **Ease for beginners:** 4/10 (requires technical range + consulting skills).

- **Income potential:** 6/10 (land six-figure projects, $1M+ possible annually).

Action Steps

1. Use freelancer case studies as proof.

2. Run audits, show ROI clearly.

3. Share results as LinkedIn/YouTube content.

4. Price in two phases: $1–5k for audit, $50k–100k for implementation.

Stage 3: Scaling into an AI Partner Agency

Core Idea: Build a **team** so you scale past your personal limits. This is the AI Automation Agency model (or **AI Partner model** at TrueHorizon).

The G.R.O.W. Framework

- **G – Get Developers:** Offload builds to free your time.

- **R – Retain Authority:** Stay the strategist and thought leader.

- **O – Onboard Sales:** Add reps to keep pipeline full.

- **W – Win with Brand:** Use your personal brand to attract larger deals.

Case Study – TrueHorizon

- Nate maxed out as solo consultant.

- Partnered with Milan & Tyler → built team.

- Scaled from $4k projects → $100k+ contracts.

- Clients see them as **long-term AI partners**.

Scores

- **Speed to money:** 5/10 (hiring takes time).

- **Ease for beginners:** 2/10 (requires consulting mastery first).

- **Income potential:** 8/10 ($1M–$10M/year possible).

Action Steps

1. Confirm consistent consulting clients + inbound leads.

2. Hire developers for delivery.

3. Add sales support.

4. Focus on audits, relationships, brand authority.

Stage 4: Teaching AI Automation

Core Idea: Package your expertise into **content + communities** for recurring, scalable profit.

The S.H.A.R.E. Framework

- **S – Show:** Demonstrate unique, impressive automations.

- **H – Hook:** Offer free resource (e.g., template in Skool).

- **A – Attract:** Deliver value inside free group.

- **R – Recommend:** Pitch paid community as next step.

- **E – Expand:** Keep producing videos + templates.

Case Study – Nate's Funnel

- **YouTube video → free Skool group → paid community ($89/mo+).**

- Grew to $150k+ monthly profit.

- Built trust through value + consistency.

Scores

- **Speed to money:** 4/10 (audience takes time to build).

- **Ease for beginners:** 1/10 (requires proven expertise).

- **Income potential:** 10/10 (infinite scale via subscriptions/courses).

Action Steps

1. Build freelancing/consulting/agency case studies first.

2. Start publishing unique automations on YouTube.

3. Funnel viewers into free group, then upsell paid community.

The Roadmap Recap

- **Freelancer → Consultant → Agency → Teacher**

- Each stage stacks skills and credibility:

    - **Freelancing** proves you can build.

    - **Consulting** proves you can deliver ROI.

    - **Agency** gives you scale.

    - **Teaching** gives you freedom.

⚠️ Don't skip steps. Climb the staircase in order to compound your skills and income.

The Offer (AIS+)

Inside **AI Automation Society Plus**, you get:

- **Agent Zero:** Beginner's foundation.

- **10 Hours to 10 Minutes:** Consulting framework.

- **Monthly Hackathons:** Portfolio-building challenges.

- **Community:** Thousands of builders supporting each other.

- **Annual Bonuses:**

    - *One Person AI Automation Agency* (scripts, calculators, proposals).

    - *YouTube Growth Course* (how Nate scaled to $120k/mo profit).

Price rises over time. Join early to lock in lifetime rate.

Final Thoughts

This journey is about **stacking skills** in the right order.

- Start small.

- Build proof.

- Grow credibility.

- Scale with a team.

- Teach for freedom.

Want to connect with others building and monetizing AI automation?
Become an AIS Plus Member