

CAREER ROADMAP

6-Month Guide to High-Paid SDET



Mastering Automation, DevOps, and AI in 2026

Phase 1: Foundation & Web UI



Month 1: Core Foundation

- ▶ **Language:** Pick Java ☕, Python 🐍, or JS.
- ▶ **Concepts:** Loops, Functions, OOP, Error Handling.
- ▶ **Goal:** 10-15 automation-friendly coding exercises.
- ▶ **Focus:** Building a strong coding logic base.



Month 2: Web Automation

- ▶ **Tools:** Selenium or Playwright (Recommended).
- ▶ **Tech:** Selectors, Waits, POM Framework.
- ▶ **Goal:** 15-20 automated UI test cases.
- ▶ **Outcome:** A maintainable test automation framework.

Phase 2: API & DevOps Integration



Month 3: API Automation

- ▶ **Tool:** Postman Deep Dive (Tests, Variables).
- ▶ **Library:** RestAssured, SuperTest, or Playwright API.
- ▶ **Goal:** Robust API framework with assertions.
- ▶ **Report:** Generate detailed HTML/Allure reports.



Month 4: CI/CD & Git

- ▶ **Git:** Branching, PR Reviews, Conflict Handling.
- ▶ **CI/CD:** Jenkins 🧑 or GitHub Actions 🦄.
- ▶ **Action:** Integrate tests into CI pipelines.
- ▶ **Bonus:** Automated reporting setup.

Phase 3: Advanced Systems & Portfolio



Month 5: DB & Debugging

- ▶ **SQL:** Joins, Filters, CRUD, Validations .
- ▶ **Debug:** DevTools, Network Tab, Console Logs .
- ▶ **Tracing:** Trace backend/frontend request cycles.



Month 6: System Design

- ▶ **Architecture:** Microservices, Queues, APIs.
- ▶ **Portfolio:** GitHub + LinkedIn + Case Studies.
- ▶ **Final Boss:** Full Framework (UI+API+DB+CI/CD).
- ▶ **Prep:** Mock Interviews & Scenario practice.

Future Skill: AI Automation



AI Fundamentals

- ▶ LLMs & Model Context Protocol (MCP).
- ▶ Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG).
- ▶ Auto-healing locators & flakiness analysis.



Bot Testing

- ▶ Rule-based & NLU Bots.
- ▶ LLM-based conversational bots.
- ▶ Agentic AI (Reasoning + Tool Use).



Validation

- ▶ Prompt Engineering for testers.
- ▶ Testing for Hallucinations.
- ▶ Evaluating AI output quality.



"The SDET market in 2026 demands both classic automation depth + AI testing skills."

Focus on Consistency & Real Projects

BUILD

AUTOMATE

INNOVATE