

# The Paradox Ledger

WORKSHEET 1 OF 11

Four boxes and a verdict line, completed before any vendor is named. Ever.

Fill this page in completely **before you name a vendor, an exam, or a price**. Record what a certification must do for you (the Door, the Signal, the Scaffold) and what you can pay (the Bill) - then pass the result through the three-part verdict.

## The Door

*Which specific doors am I opening? (real postings, internal roles, contract requirements - or "none yet")*

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## The Signal

*Who needs convincing about me, and of what?*

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## The Scaffold

*What do I need to learn - and does my learning need external structure?*

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## The Bill

*Money, hours per week, months - in your market's terms, including the retake and the proof project.*

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## The verdict

"This purchase names a job I need done (Box 1, 2, or 3), it is the cheapest way to do that job, and Box 4 covers the whole package - exam, materials, retake, and proof project. If any part fails, I fix the plan before I spend."

☐ Passes - proceed to Part 2

☐ Fails - fix the plan first