



Workforce Insider

Brought to you by

By Tony Burton • Jun 10, 2026

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...772 words

In this month's Workforce Insider:

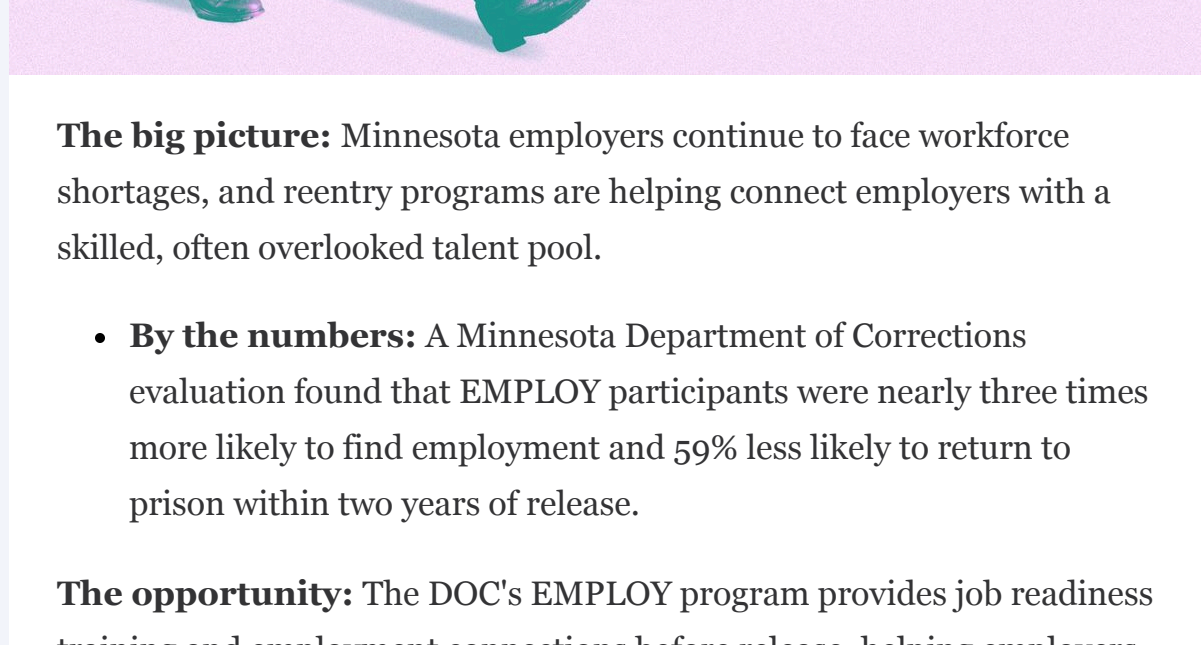
- **Reentry Hiring:** [Reach out for Hiring Opportunities through the Department of Corrections](#)
- **Looking to Hire or Network?** [Attend a job fair near you](#)
- **Restaurant & Hospitality Leadership Center Webinars on Employee Retention:** [Register Now](#)
- **Mark Your Calendars for November 19:** [2026 Stars of the Future](#)
- **Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program:** [Enrollment Now Open!](#)
- **Ensure Food Safety:** [Get ServSafe Certified At a Class Near You!](#)

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Fill Open Roles Faster with Reentry Hiring



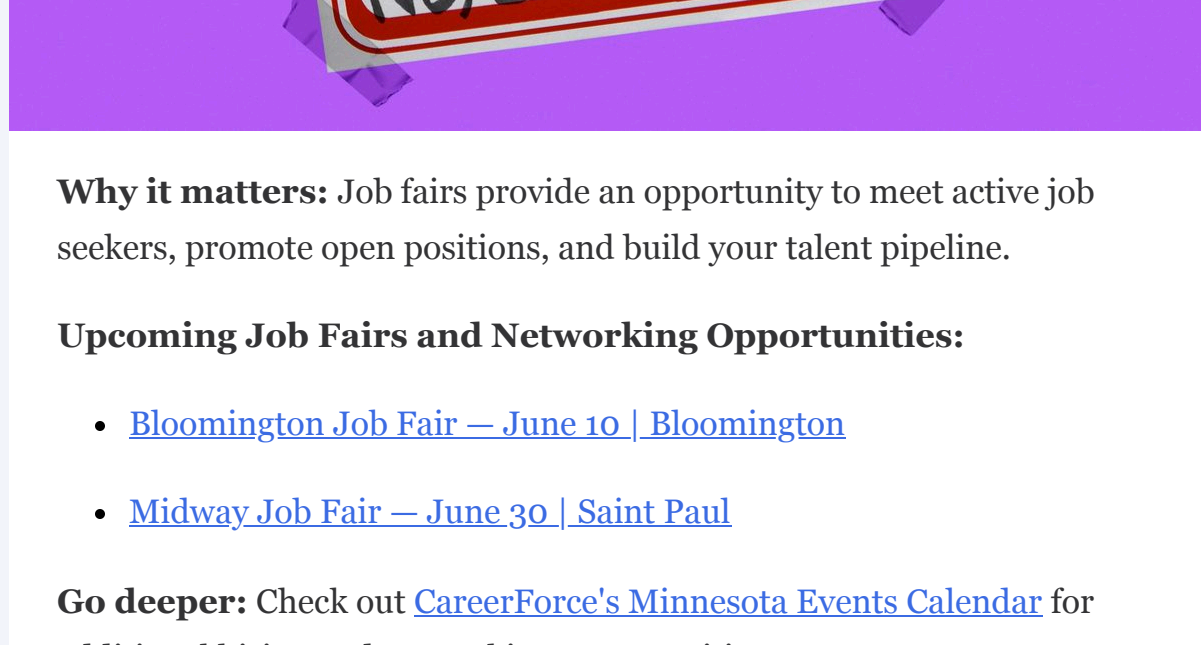
The big picture: Minnesota employers continue to face workforce shortages, and reentry programs are helping connect employers with a skilled, often overlooked talent pool.

- **By the numbers:** A Minnesota Department of Corrections evaluation found that EMPLOY participants were nearly three times more likely to find employment and 59% less likely to return to prison within two years of release.

The opportunity: The DOC's EMPLOY program provides job readiness training and employment connections before release, helping employers access motivated job candidates.

- **Go deeper:** Employers interested in reentry hiring initiatives or partnering with the DOC can contact Jennifer Gast to learn about available programs and opportunities jennifer.gast@state.mn.us

Connect with Job Seekers at Upcoming Job Fairs



Why it matters: Job fairs provide an opportunity to meet active job seekers, promote open positions, and build your talent pipeline.

Upcoming Job Fairs and Networking Opportunities:

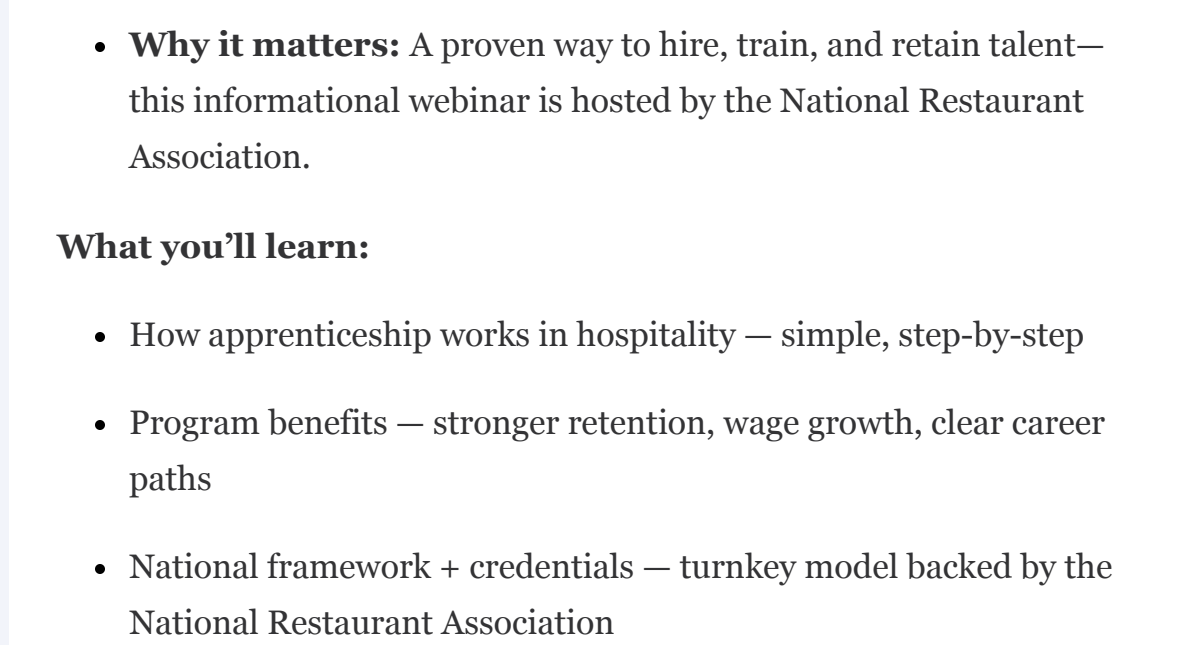
- [Bloomington Job Fair – June 10 | Bloomington](#)
- [Midway Job Fair – June 30 | Saint Paul](#)

Go deeper: Check out [CareerForce's Minnesota Events Calendar](#) for additional hiring and networking opportunities.

- **Questions?** Contact [Dillon](#).

[Find Job Fairs Near You](#)

Upcoming Culinary & Hospitality Apprenticeship Information Sessions



Free webinar alert! Join other hospitality professionals for [upcoming webinars](#) through the NRAEF Restaurant & Hospitality Leadership Center, [including one today at 2 PM CST](#).

- **Why it matters:** A proven way to hire, train, and retain talent—this informational webinar is hosted by the National Restaurant Association.

What you'll learn:

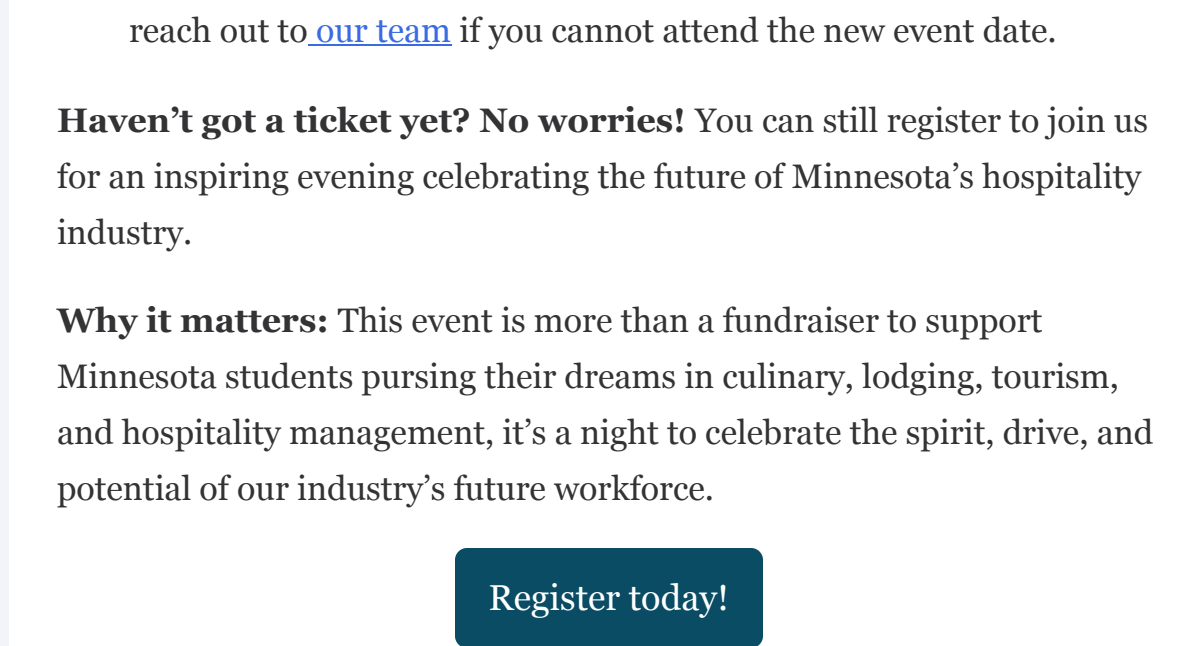
- How apprenticeship works in hospitality – simple, step-by-step
- Program benefits – stronger retention, wage growth, clear career paths
- National framework + credentials – turnkey model backed by the National Restaurant Association

Apprenticeships include:

- Line Cook
- Kitchen Manager
- Restaurant Manager

[Learn More & Register!](#)

Stars of the Future Rescheduled for November 19, 2026



Stars of the Future Returns! After postponement earlier this year, we are excited to announce that Stars of the Future is returning November 19, 2026 at the Renaissance Depot.

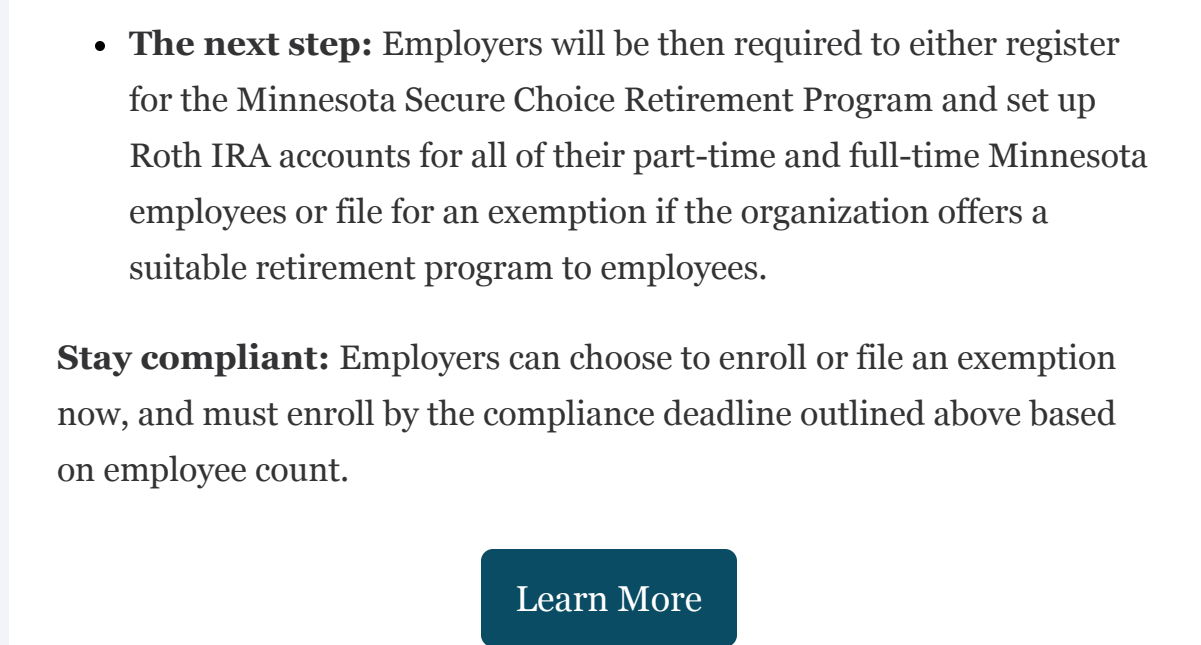
- **Important detail:** All tickets purchased for the originally scheduled event will be honored for the rescheduled date. Please reach out to [our team](#) if you cannot attend the new event date.

Haven't got a ticket yet? No worries! You can still register to join us for an inspiring evening celebrating the future of Minnesota's hospitality industry.

Why it matters: This event is more than a fundraiser to support Minnesota students pursuing their dreams in culinary, lodging, tourism, and hospitality management, it's a night to celebrate the spirit, drive, and potential of our industry's future workforce.

[Register today!](#)

Enrollment Now Open for Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program



Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program is a state-facilitated, employer-supported retirement program that bridges the retirement savings gap for hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans.

Some background: The program will offer simple, automatic and portable individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to help employees build retirement savings through automatic payroll deductions.

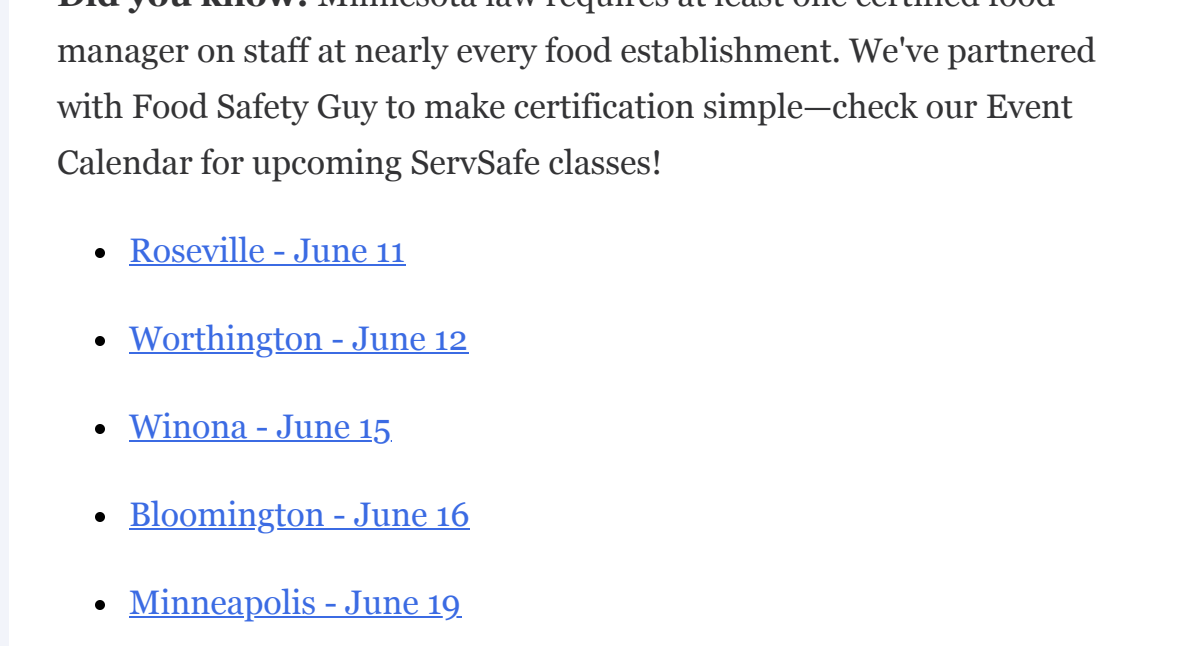
What to expect: Employers with five or more employees receiving Minnesota taxable wages should have received—or can expect to soon receive—either email or postal letter communication from the record keeper, Vestwell.

- **The next step:** Employers will be then required to either register for the Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program and set up Roth IRA accounts for all of their part-time and full-time Minnesota employees or file for an exemption if the organization offers a suitable retirement program to employees.

Stay compliant: Employers can choose to enroll or file an exemption now, and must enroll by the compliance deadline outlined above based on employee count.

[Learn More](#)

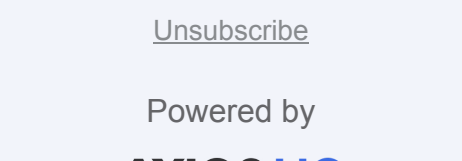
Get ServSafe Certified at Your Area's Next Class!



Did you know: Minnesota law requires at least one certified food manager on staff at nearly every food establishment. We've partnered with Food Safety Guy to make certification simple—check our Event Calendar for upcoming ServSafe classes!

- [Roseville - June 11](#)
- [Worthington - June 12](#)
- [Winona - June 15](#)
- [Bloomington - June 16](#)
- [Minneapolis - June 19](#)
- [Mankato - June 22](#)
- [Woodbury - June 23](#)
- [St. Cloud - June 25](#)

Go deeper: [Click here](#) to explore ServSafe products & courses.



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