



# Workforce Insider

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Downtown Convention Center

By Tony Burton • Jul 09, 2025

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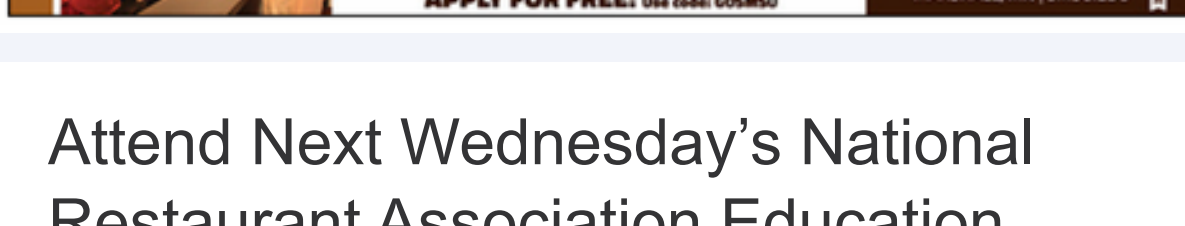
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## Minnesota Secures Significant Department of Labor Workforce Grants

**Some good news:** Minnesota has received significant funding for workforce development, including...

- **Apprenticeship Expansion:** Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) [secured \\$979,062 from DOL's State Apprenticeship Expansion Formula grants](#), creating pathways for more registered apprenticeships to form across the state.
- **Youth Skills Training:** Seventeen Minnesota partnerships [will share \\$1.5 million in DLI Youth Skills Training \(YST\) grants](#), providing career exposure and paid work for students 16+ in high-demand fields.
- **Veteran Support:** Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists Inc. (serving Minnesota & Wisconsin counties) [received \\$304,000 from a national DOL award](#) to help homeless/at-risk veterans reenter the workforce.



## Attend Next Wednesday's National Restaurant Association Education Foundation Apprenticeship Webinar

**Employers! Learn more about apprenticeships:** Sign up [here](#) for a virtual info session hosted by the National Restaurant Association on Wednesday, July 16th at 2:00PM (CST) about culinary apprenticeships.

## Workforce Program Spotlight: Takoda



**This month we're featuring [Takoda](#)** - the career pathways program for [American Indian OIC](#).

- **About the program:** Takoda aims to help people obtain credentials, skills and a good job. They have participants with ServSafe credentials, Commerical Driver's License's (CDL) and more.

**Learn more:** If you're looking to build a pipeline for quality employees contact [Dillon](#) to get connected with the Takoda team.

## MNDEED Workforce Wednesday Webinars



**Calling all Minnesota employers!** You're invited to [join in a monthly discussion of current workforce challenges and solutions](#). Join the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Workforce Strategy Consultant team the first Wednesday of the month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- **What to expect:** [This series of virtual meetings](#) focuses on highlighting proven strategies to build talent pipelines, hearing and sharing best practices, and networking with other Minnesota employers about all things workforce.

### Attendees will learn ways to...

- **Increase** the number of applicants and new hires
- **Enhance** current training programs
- **Discover** how to be recognized as an employer of choice in your industry
- **and more!**

[Learn More & Register](#)

## Enroll Today in Free Hospitality and Online Customer Service Training



**Did you know:** Hospitality Minnesota Minnesota and the University of Minnesota's Tourism Center proudly offer a *free* [online customer service training program](#)!

- **Some background:** Thanks to Hospitality Minnesota's advocacy, the Minnesota Legislature allocated funds to create a free training through the University of Minnesota for all Minnesotans.

**What to expect:** The program offers foundational customer service skills development for all Minnesota residents.

- **Get started:** Per [MN Statutes Sec. 116L98](#), participants will answer a few questions and sign an equal opportunity statement before accessing the training.

[Learn More](#)

## ServSafe Summer: Get ServSafe Certified with Food Safety Guy!

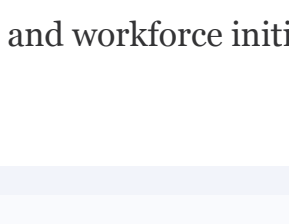
**FoodSafetyGuy**

**Hospitality Minnesota** has partnered with FoodSafetyGuy to bring you exclusive discounts on ServSafe Food Protection Manager certification courses, materials, exams, and recertification.

**Why it matters:** ServSafe is the gold standard in food safety training, trusted by professionals worldwide. Boost Confidence & Compliance: Enhance your knowledge and ensure your establishment meets all food safety regulations.

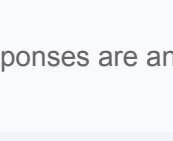
**Exclusive Member Benefits:** Enjoy discounted rates on courses, materials, and exams.

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