



# Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Jan 06, 2025

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## In today's January 6, 2025 Update:

- Experience Our Industry's Future This Month at Stars of the Future
- MN DEED Releases December Paid Leave Updates
- Ring in the New Year with ServSafe Certification
- ICYMI: Attorney General Releases Updated Price Transparency Law Guidelines
- In the News

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- Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email Kate](#) to learn more.

## Experience the Future of Hospitality This Month at Stars of the Future



**You're Invited!** Join us for a captivating evening of culinary artistry, inspiring stories, and impactful giving at [Stars of the Future](#) on Wednesday, January 22nd from 6-9 PM at the luxurious [Four Seasons Hotel Minneapolis](#).

### Get ready to:

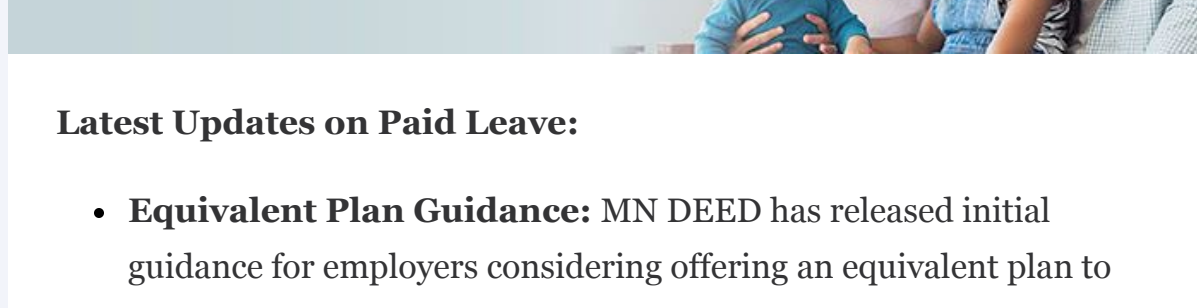
- **Savor culinary creations:** Indulge in delectable amuse-bouche prepared by talented ProStart students and savor a breathtaking grazing table curated by the Four Seasons culinary team.
- **Support the future of our industry:** Bid on exclusive experiences and contribute to the Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation, empowering over 13,000 hospitality students and professionals across the state.
- **Be inspired:** Hear from renowned baker [Zoë François](#) as she shares her journey of passion and achieving baking dreams.
- **Enjoy an unforgettable evening:** Hosted by the charismatic [Jason DeRusha](#).

**Why it matters:** Every ticket purchased and every bid placed supports the future of our vibrant hospitality industry.

- **Reserve your tickets** now and join us for an evening that will leave you inspired and fulfilled.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

## MN DEED Releases December Paid Leave Updates



### Latest Updates on Paid Leave:

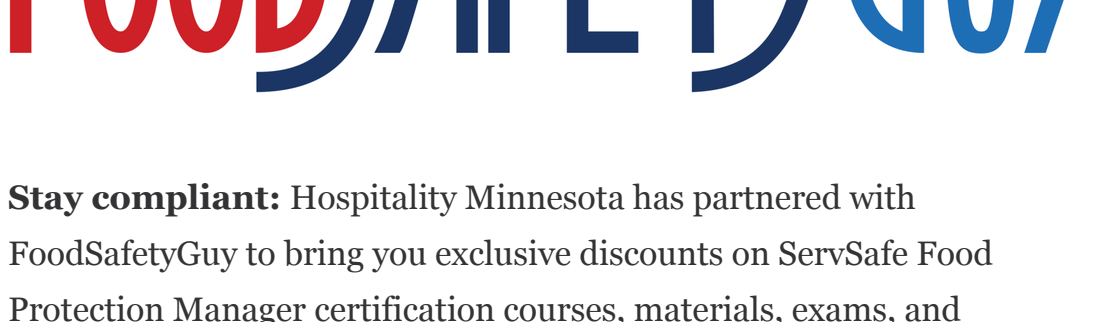
- **Equivalent Plan Guidance:** MN DEED has released initial guidance for employers considering offering an equivalent plan to the state's Paid Leave program. This guidance outlines the criteria for determining if a plan meets the state's requirements.
- **Rulemaking Update:** Final proposed rules for the Paid Leave program are now open for public comment until January 3rd. MN DEED has also published a summary of public comments on the initial draft rules and answers to frequently asked questions.
- **Hiring Spotlight:** The MN DEED Paid Leave team is growing! They are actively hiring for key positions like Senior Manager of Appeals and PMO Manager.

### Key takeaways for Hospitality Minnesota members:

- **Equivalent Plans:** Explore the option of providing an equivalent plan and review the newly released guidance.
- **Rulemaking:** Participate in the public comment process to help shape the final rules.
- **Hiring Opportunities:** Consider career opportunities with the MN DEED Paid Leave team.

**Go deeper:** For more information, [visit MN DEED's Paid Leave website](#).

## Ring in the New Year with ServSafe Certification



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

- **Where January classes are being held:** Austin, Fridley, Woodbury, Winona, Rochester, Duluth, Burnsville, Roseville, Plymouth, Mankato, and more!

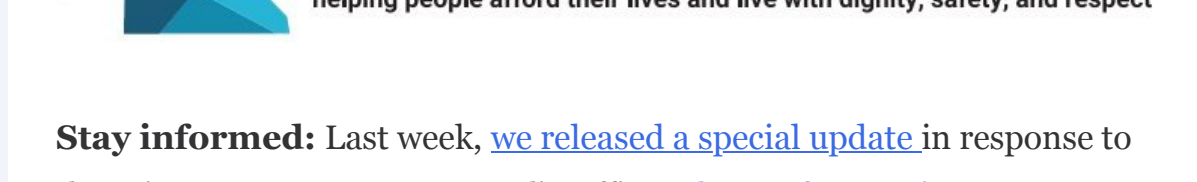
### Why it matters:

- **Gain Industry-Recognized Credentials:** 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.

**Find a Class Near You:** [Click HERE](#)

**Explore ServSafe Products & Courses:** [Click HERE](#)

## ICYMI: Price Transparency Law Took Effect January 1, 2025



**Stay informed:** Last week, [we released a special update](#) in response to the Minnesota Attorney General's Office [release of new price transparency guidelines](#).

- **Why it matters:** The guidelines, which include several FAQ's, aim to help businesses comply with the state's new price transparency law, effective January 1, 2025.

### Key takeaways:

- **Accurate Pricing:** Advertised prices must reflect the total cost, including all mandatory fees and surcharges.
- **No Misleading Prices:** Businesses cannot advertise prices lower than the actual cost to the consumer.
- **Broad Applicability:** The law applies to all businesses advertising goods or services in Minnesota.
- **Timeline:** This law is not retroactive.

### What's excluded?

- Taxes (sales tax, delivery fees, etc.)
- Reasonable shipping costs
- Reasonably avoidable fees (credit card surcharges, some delivery fees)

### Exceptions:

- Businesses regulated by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
- Motor vehicle dealerships
- Businesses providing settlement services (as defined by RESPA)

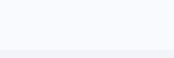
**Go deeper:** [Read the Attorney General's Price Transparency FAQs here](#).

## In the News

- [2 Minnesota Restaurants Named To 'America's Best Restaurants 2024'](#) | B105 Country
- [New Junk Fees Law Goes Into Effect January 1](#) | Valley News Live
- [Restaurant service charges will disappear, but don't call them 'junk fees'](#) | Star Tribune
- [Mango's plans to reopen restaurant in Moorhead](#) | Valley News Live

**See you back here next week!**  
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