

THE YOLANDA ACT

Law 27.592 on training of public servants and officials in an environmental perspective

Camila Crescimbeni

National Deputy for the Province of Buenos Aires
Honorable National Congress of the Argentine Republic

Article 1 - Purpose

The purpose of this law is to **guarantee comprehensive training** about the **environment**, with a **sustainable development perspective** and with special emphasis on climate change for **public servants, officials and authorities**.

Article 2 - Compulsory training on the environment

Mandatory training on environmental issues is herein established, with a perspective on sustainable development and with special emphasis on climate change, for all persons who work in the **public sector** at all levels and hierarchies of the **Executive, Legislative and Judicial** branches of the national government.

Article 3 - General guidelines

The Authority of Application shall establish within ninety (90) days after the entry into force of this law the general guidelines of the training workshops resulting from what is established in this law, ensuring that said guidelines incorporate both **awareness** and **transmission of knowledge** as goals.

Article 4 - Public participation

The Authority of Application must guarantee the participation of **scientific institutions** specialized in these issues, as well as **civil society** and its **organizations**, during the process of preparing the general guidelines established in the preceding article.

Article 5 - Information

The general guidelines must include, as a minimum, information regarding **climate change**, the **protection of biodiversity** and **ecosystems**, **energy efficiency** and **renewable energies**, the **circular economy** and **sustainable development**, as well as information related to current environmental regulations.

Article 6 - Methodology

The persons referred to in Article 2 must carry out the training in the manner and form established by the respective organizations or agencies to which they belong.

Article 7 - Implementation

The highest authorities of the agencies of the branches referred to in Article 2, with the collaboration departments, programs or offices that tend to environmental issues, **are responsible for ensuring the implementation of the workshops within each branch**, which will begin to be taught within **one year** of the entry into force of this law.

For this purpose, public agencies **may make adaptations of existing materials** and/or programs, **or develop their own**, being governed by the general guidelines established in accordance with Articles 3 and 5, as well as by regulations, recommendations and other related provisions established in international climate and environmental treaties signed by Argentina. The information included must be **clear, precise** and **scientifically based**, and must be adjusted to the body and the context in which it is provided. The material developed by the Authority of Application will be **available freely**, contemplating its dissemination and circulation for training activities that would like to be replicated in provincial or municipal jurisdictions, as well as in other private areas of the Argentine Republic.

Article 8 - Certification

The Authority of Implementation will **certify the quality of the training that each agency prepares** and implements, which must be sent within ninety (90) days following the creation of the general guidelines, being able to make modifications and suggestions for their greater effectiveness.

Article 9 - Training for highest authorities

The **training of the highest authorities** of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches of the national government will be in charge of the Authority of Application.

Article 10.- Access to information

The Authority of Application, on its website, must provide **public information** and the **degree of compliance** with the provisions herein in **each of the agencies** that comprise the branches of government referred to in Article 2.

The website will identify **those responsible for complying with the obligations** established by this law in each body and the **percentage of people trained, disaggregated according to their hierarchy.**

Likewise, the Authority of Application will publish on this website an **annual report** on compliance with the provisions of this law, including the list of senior authorities in the country who have been trained.

Article 11.- Yolanda Ortíz

A biographical review of **Yolanda Ortíz's** life, her **political, scientific** and **social commitment** will be published on the website of the Authority of Application, especially valuing her legacies in terms of awareness, education, public policy and environmental legislation.

Article 12.- Non-compliance

People who refuse without just cause to carry out the training provided for in this law will be intimidated by the Authority of Application. Failure to comply with this notice will be considered a serious offense, giving rise to the pertinent **disciplinary sanction**, being possible to make public the refusal to participate in the training on the website of the Authority of Application.

Article 13.- Budget

The expenses demanded by this law will be taken from the credits that correspond to the budgetary items of the public bodies in question.

Article 14 .- Authority of Application

The national Executive Power will designate the authority for the application of this law.

Article 15 - Invite the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and the provinces to adhere to this law.

Article 16.- Communicate to the national Executive Power.