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Argentina’s wine regulator will cut positions through a voluntary retirement plan

The 2026 program at the National Viticulture Institute eliminates vacated posts, though officials gave no estimate for cuts or savings

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Argentina’s National Viticulture Institute approved a voluntary retirement program for its staff and ordered the elimination of the budgeted positions of employees who leave under the plan, according to Resolution 9/2026 published on Monday, November 16, in

the Official Gazette.

The measure was signed in Mendoza on November 13 by Carlos Raul Tizio Mayer, president of the National Viticulture Institute, known by its Spanish acronym INV. The institute is the national agency that regulates the wine sector and operates as a decentralized body under the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Secretariat within the Economy Ministry.

The resolution creates a voluntary retirement system for fiscal year 2026 for INV employees covered by Argentina's national public employment framework under Law 25.164. It also approves the official application form for workers who want to join the program. The detailed terms are contained in annexes published in the web edition of the Official Gazette.

The text says the plan is part of the national government's broader deregulation and state reform agenda, which seeks to simplify and shrink the public sector in order to make public administration more transparent, agile, effective and efficient. It says the government has been promoting programs aimed at achieving what it calls an appropriate and rational staffing level across the national public administration, including voluntary retirement and other forms of voluntary separation.

Under Article 3 of the resolution, the institute must take the steps needed to eliminate the budgeted positions tied to employees who accept the program from the date their employment relationship ends. The resolution adds that this will not affect the continuation of positions with executive functions included in the institute's current organizational structure.

The measure does not say how many employees are expected to apply, how many positions could ultimately be removed, or how much money the program is intended to save. It also does not change the institute's top organizational structure, which had already been approved through earlier administrative decisions in 2018 and 2021.

The resolution states that employees who join the program will be allowed to move into private-sector work or pursue personal projects. It also says any return to national public service would be possible only after five years have passed since the end of the

employment relationship.

For the beverage industry, the move matters because the INV is Argentina’s main wine regulator, with responsibilities tied to the sector’s oversight and administration. Any reduction in staffing could reshape how the agency handles its operations and its interaction with wineries and other market participants, even though the resolution does not specify the scale of the cuts.

The text cites multiple legal and administrative precedents, including the law that created the institute and collective bargaining rules governing national public employees. It says the Public Employment Development and Modernization Subsecretariat and the Budget Subsecretariat reviewed the measure within their respective areas of authority, along with the institute’s administrative and legal offices.

The resolution also orders notification of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Secretariat, the Public Employment Development and Modernization Subsecretariat and the National Directorate for Monitoring Investment in Human Capital in the National Public Sector. The notice was published in the Official Gazette on November 16.