

BBG's Admission Policy Breaches New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law	Current Admissions Policy
<p>See: Chapter 618 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1906 which pertained specifically to a “botanic garden” [p. 77], amended Chapter 509 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1897 [p. 76] which set out the “[o]bjects of the Garden” [see BBG’s “Incorporating Purpose ...” section below], but it did not specify admission terms. Further, Chapter 178 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1911 [p. 80], amended Chapter 618 but left the admission provisions unamended:</p> <p>“Sec. 3 ... Said grounds shall be open and free to the public daily, including Sundays, subject to such restrictions only as to hours as the proper care, culture and preservation of the said garden may require” [emphasis added]</p> <p>See: Chapter 172 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1890 pertained to the incorporation of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences [BIOAS].</p> <p>“Sec. 3 ... the museums and libraries ... shall be open and free to the public and private schools of said city, at all reasonable times, and open to the general public on such terms of admission as shall be approved by the mayor and park commissioner ...” [emphasis added]</p> <p>NOTE: BBG was one of four institutions to operate under the BIOAS umbrella and in effect be required to provide free admission to New York City public and private schools as written in Chapter 172. However, Chapter 618 broadened free access to all New Yorkers. Additionally, BBG separated from BIOAS in 1977 and incorporated as the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Corporation [BBGC] [see HISTORY OF BIOAS].</p> <p>A 2009 License Agreement between New York City and BBGC was produced in response to FA's Freedom of Information</p>	<p>See: Tickets/Visit</p> <p>A mandatory admission fee in varying amounts is charged to categories of visitors labeled as “Adults,” “Students,” 12+ with id, “Seniors” 65+ with identification. Corporate-sponsored “Community Tickets” provide a portion of each day’s tickets free to “those who need them.” Affiliate organizations admitted free.</p>

Law [FOIL] request. Its terms should be properly and legally scrutinized regarding compliance with controlling State laws.

Generally, State laws supersede City agreements.

IF BBGC'S ADMISSION POLICY IS DETERMINED TO HAVE TO COMPLY with Chapter 618 of 1906 as amended by Chapter 178 of 1911, BBGC DOES NOT COMPLY because it:

[1] Denies New Yorkers daily free access, including Sundays.

IF BBGC'S ADMISSION POLICY IS DETERMINED TO HAVE TO COMPLY with Chapter 178 of 1890, BBGC DOES NOT COMPLY because it:

[1] Denies New York City public and private schools free access at all reasonable times.

[2] Does not price tickets to reach a "broad spectrum" of New Yorkers, as is a pre-requisite to qualify for City funding [see "New York City Fails to Protect ..." section below].

Free access to the PEC institutions is unique to New Yorkers and is provided for in the laws and contracts applicable to the PPP structure. Stewards of PEC institutions may choose to charge an admission fee to other visitors.