BCM-BIOAS's Admission Policy Breaches New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law

Current Admissions Policy

See: Chapter 172 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1890.

"Sec. 3 ... the museums and libraries ... shall be <u>open and</u> <u>free to the public and private schools of said city</u>, 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]

NOTE: BCM is one of four institutions to operate under the umbrella of BIOAS and in effect subject to provide free admission to New York City public and private schools as written in Chapter 172 [see History of BIOAS].

Additionally, a 2011 License Agreement between BCM Inc. and the city of New York was produced in response to FA's Freedom of Information Law [FOIL] request. Its terms should be properly and legally scrutinized regarding compliance with controlling state laws. State laws supersede city agreements.

See: <u>Tickets/Visit</u>

All visitors older than age one, except grandparents, pay the same mandatory fee. Grandparents pay \$1 less. Corporate sponsorship supports free admission Thursdays 2-5 PM. Discounted tickets to specific cohorts of visitor.

BCM-BIOAS's ADMISSION POLICY DOES NOT COMPLY with Chapter 172 of 1890 because it:

[1] Does <u>not</u> provide free access to New York City public and private schools.

[2] Provides discounts to selected cohorts of visitor, but its fee amount seemingly does not allow attendance by 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.