

QZ's/NYZS-WCS's Admission Policy Breaches New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law	Current Admissions Policy
<p>See: Section 1 of Chapter 383 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1991 amended Section 8 of Chapter 435 of the Laws of the State of New York 1895 and Chapter 924 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1969, also amended Chapter Section 8 of Chapter 435. Section 1 of Chapter 383 amended Section 8 of Chapter 435 and Chapter 924 as follows:</p> <p>“Sec. 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least three days in each week ...”</p> <p>Amending “Sec. 1. ... Section 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [three days] <i>one day</i> in each week ...”</p> <p>Chapter 383 again amended Section 8 of Chapter 435 in Section 2 as follows:</p> <p>Amending Sec. 2 .. “Section 8. Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [one day] <i>three days</i> in each week ...</p> <p>Sec. 3. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that section two of this act shall take effect July 1, 1994.”</p> <p>Chapter 924 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1969</p> <p>“Sec. 8. ... Admission to the zoological park shall be free to the public for at least [four] <i>three</i> days in each week, subject to such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by said corporation” [<i>italics in original</i>].</p> <p>NOTE: A 1981 Agreement <u>between NYZS, with respect to the Flushing Meadows Park [Queens] Zoo, and the City of New York, through DPR</u>, was produced in response to FA's Freedom of Information Law [FOIL] request. Regarding admission fees it provided as follows:</p>	<p>See: Tickets/Visit</p> <p>QZ/ NYZS-WCS admits members free and charges different amount mandatory price admission fees to adults ages 13 and up, children ages three to 12 and seniors ages 65+.</p>

“SECTION 24.(c) ... (i) by issuing a certificate of necessity to NYZS (a "Certificate of Necessity") **requiring NYZS to establish and implement a schedule of fees for general admission to the Zoo, which fees shall be determined by NYZS with the prior approval of the Commissioner...**”
[emphasis added]

The terms of the 1981 Agreement should be voided. Generally, **State laws supersede City agreements.**

Because NYZS-WCS in effect continues to operate under the NYZS corporate name, it should be required to meet the provisions of Chapter 435 as amended by Chapter 383 regarding admission provisions. QZ/NYZS-WCS violates New York State law because it [1] Denies New Yorkers free access “at least three days in each week.”

Mindful that NYZS/WCS entities are owned by New York City through DPR, it is offensive that New Yorkers are consciously deprived of our right to free access. 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.