

SIZ's Admission Policy Breaches New York State Law

Free Admission Written in Law	Current Admissions Policy
<p>See: Chapter 712 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1935</p> <p>“Sec. 2..... [and the] building or buildings and grounds of the said Staten Island Zoological Society, Inc., shall be open and free to the public at all times...” [emphasis added]</p> <p>NOTE: A 1936 Lease Agreement between SIZ 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. Generally, State laws supersede City agreements.</p>	<p>See: Tickets/Visit</p> <p>As of July 2021, SIZ charges a mandatory fee in varying amounts to non-member adults, seniors, and children visitors over age two, except for Urban Advantage, Con Edison, and active-duty military and/or reserve visitors, whose tickets are discounted. A mandatory, fixed price fee is charged for events. Free access on Wednesdays after 2:00 pm.</p>
<p>SIZ's ADMISSION POLICY DOES NOT COMPLY with Chapter 712 of the Laws of 1935 because it:</p> <p>[1] Denies New Yorkers open and free admittance at all times.</p> <p>[2] Denies New Yorkers free access to special exhibits/events.</p>	

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.