

The Museum of Science appreciates the careful thought that went into developing guidelines for nonprofit institutions in the City of Boston, as well as the 50% Community Benefits credit that has been incorporated into these guidelines. As you may know, the Museum has always been committed to providing services to the City and people of Boston, and it is important to note that in 2016, the value of our contributed services and free and discounted admissions is nearly \$1 million. The Museum undertakes and funds these programs annually as they are considered essential to our mission. We are pleased to serve as a resource to Boston students, teachers, and families. Here's some background for your review:

- For years, Boston residents have been able to take advantage of free admissions provided through library memberships— sponsored by the Lowell Institute—which are available at every branch library in the city. The Museum also participates in “Countdown to Kindergarten,” a program offering families with pre-K children four free tickets to visit the Museum any day during the summer months. Additionally, the Museum provides educational outreach to Boston Public Schools students with autism spectrum disorder through its BEST program. Last year, the combined value of these free access programs was nearly \$200,000.
- The Museum provides professional development for teachers through enrichment programs that include workshops, sabbaticals, our Teacher Partner Program, and more. Last year, 1,056 Boston Public School teachers participated in these programs at a total cost to the Museum of \$44,768.
- For more than 25 years, the Museum has offered its Eye-Opener program, bringing 2nd graders from Boston Public Schools into the Museum to experience hands-on science exploration. Through this initiative, a different group of students visits the Museum every Tuesday during the school year. Each group receives a Museum volunteer-led tour of exhibits and galleries, while their teachers attend professional development workshops. Approximately 3,200 students participate in the Eye-Opener program annually, at a cost to the Museum of \$147,000.
- The Museum also hosted field trip visits for thousands of Boston students in 2016, beyond those participating in the Eye-Opener program. Admission fees for school trip students are substantially discounted based on the general admission price. Additionally, the Museum offers an even deeper discounted admission of \$5 during certain times of the year. The total subsidized cost to the Museum for these field trip initiatives represents a commitment of more than \$200,000.
- Finally, through its SciCAP (Community Access Program), the Museum offers free or reduced admissions visitors annually who are served by after-school programs, community-based organizations, homeless shelters and other social service agencies. A substantial proportion of the agencies receiving these passes are Boston-based. The Museum also offers free admission for Massachusetts residents with EBT/WIC and their families. These programs were used by nearly 13,724 Boston residents and the value of these free and reduced admissions was approximately \$325,000.