

→ FROM AIRPORT TO GREAT PARK

BACKGROUND

Occupying 227 acres at the southeastern edge of the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica Airport is the largest public parcel within the City's boundary. In 2014, the voters approved Measure LC limiting new development on the Airport land and prioritized for parks, public open spaces and public recreational facilities. Although the airport currently is in limited operation, its full closure is expected after December 31, 2028. In the past two years, the City has undertaken a robust public outreach process, garnering the community's input to develop a vision centered on a "Great Park." Following the guiding principles set forth by the community and adopted City policy – Start with Nature, Inspire Wonder, Balance Economics, Amplify Versatility, and Celebrate Place – these concepts will be used as a foundation in creating a sustainable and economically realistic framework for a great park serving the current and future generations.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this studio is to explore the following topics:

- The process in which large-scale new parks are conceived and implemented from post-industrial sites.
- The necessary steps taken by the City to recalibrate their resources considering unprecedented opportunities.
- The challenging issues at hand and expertise required to move forward a project of this size and complexity.
- The notion of how does a park pay for itself.
- The critical community input driving the park's futures.

**SUBMIT
BY MARCH 7**



ENVISIONING THE FUTURES FOR SANTA MONICA AIRPORT

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:



1 MIN VIDEO



SUBMISSION

- 1-minute introductory video
- Letter of interest
- Resume
- Contact information for 2-3 references
- Portfolio (max. 10 pages)

Electronic submissions only.

SWA 2026 SUMMER PROGRAM LOCATION:

SWA Los Angeles
811 W 7th Street
8th Floor
Los Angeles, California
90017
United States

Selected applicants will receive a stipend and housing for the eight week duration of the summer student program.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission deadline:
March 7, 2026
Notification: Mid-March

Duration of Internship:
June 1st to July 31st, 2026

Please send all questions to:
2026summerprogram@swagroup.com

Applications can be submitted at:
swagroup.com/about/students