

Keyword: Coming to Texas A&M

Interviewee information:

- Name/nickname: Alondra
- School year: Bachelors
- Major: Telecommunications and media studies and Spanish.
- Hometown: Edinburg in the Valley, Tx
- Family's country of origin: Mexico

Transcript (copy segment transcript here):

[00:00:54] - [00:01:46]

[00:00:54] How was the application process like, did you receive help from someone?

[00:00:59] I have an older brother and an older sister and a younger sister. But they were lost when they were applying to college. And so they weren't really much help to me. So I was on my own the whole entire process, like I did my entire FAFSA by myself. I did all of my applications for myself. The only help I did receive was from my financial aid advisor. But even then, like, they're not that experienced because where I'm from, like a lot of people, some a lot of high school graduates don't really apply to college. They just go and work in the oil fields or become stay at home moms. So it was difficult because I had to do a lot of research on my own.

[00:02:27] - [00:05:00]

[00:02:27] Tell me about the say you got your acceptance letter, how was it?

[00:02:37] I was happy when I got my acceptance letter because A&M was my second choice. My first choice was out of state, Ivy League. And so when that didn't happen, I was like, ah! But then I got the A&M and I was like, okay, at least I'm not gonna be in the valley because I wanted to go away from home no matter what. Like go away because there's more opportunities. It's a bigger system, bigger school, more majors. And so just receiving like that, yes. I was like, okay.

[00:03:06] And I knew that at the same time, like when I was happy my parents were kind of like sad because they're like, OK, now she's gonna leave. Like for real now. Now it's real. Now we're gonna have to drive her up and do all that stuff. And so I guess I was just happy because I knew that my hard work finally paid off because I've been thinking about college since I was small. I was in an early college program since seventh grade. I was in early college, high school, which is like you take it. It is like if you take community college, but you're in high school. So I was like always ahead trying to be ahead and prepared.

[00:03:40] So when I finally got that, yes, I was like, okay, it's meant to be.

[00:03:44] Tell me about the first day on campus, how was it?

[00:03:49] I was lost. I was lost. My best friend I have me and a couple friends actually came and we applied and we all got accepted. Different fields, but we all came. And so we kind of found each other. We tried to room in the same dorms to not lose each other. But our best friend was Google, Google Maps, every building on Google map. And we would try and go to the buildings that had our classes and stuff like that to not be lost on that on the first day of school.

[00:04:21] How as the impression of the school, what did you feel when you got here?

[00:04:26] I felt, well, I had previously visited, but when I was actually here as a student, it was it felt nice because it was it was like a town. I saw it as like a little village. It wasn't like I didn't feel like an ant in the city because I visited a lot of schools. And some of them I'd be like, oh, like, it's too small. They don't have enough resources for other ones. It's too big. I feel like I won't matter here and here. I felt like I can. I'm like somewhat I can make like a print here. You know, it's not it's not too overwhelming. So I kind of feel like, homey.