

**Keyword:** Coming to Texas A&M

**Interviewee information:**

- Name/nickname: Carlo
- School year: Graduate
- Major: Masters of Urban Planning Student
- Hometown: College Station, Tx
- Family's country of origin: Pita, Peru

**Transcript (copy segment transcript here):**

**[00:01:11] - [00:02:46]**

[00:01:11] So what was the application process like?

[00:01:16] So I think at the time that that I applied, it was a little different because the DACCA program had just started. And so a lot of teachers weren't familiar with how to DACCA people applied to the program. And so we thought I had to apply for a FASFA.

[00:01:37] But that's not the case. I can't get any federal funding. And so what ended up happening is I applied for FASFA find out I couldn't. And so I very lightly applied for TASFA with all the resources I had. And so then my best friend was just going to community college at first because they accepted my really late financial aid package. Thanks. I mean, this is state of Texas where a lot to get funding from the state by a lot of states is it can be it can be a little more different for students to apply to college. But other than that, I was. So I was in a program called AVID, and they really helped me out with the application process, which was that with S.A.T. scores A.C.T.. So it wasn't for that program. I wouldn't be here. They're the ones who really guided me. So I had some help my parents could do for me, but the avid program was able to do it for me. What was the name of the program? It is AVID. It stands for advancement via individual determination. It is like a college prep program for a lot of like first generation students. And there's a few programs here. I know Brian has it and College Station has it and they're all around the nation.

**[00:04:52] - [00:07:22]**

[00:04:52] Tell me about the day you got your acceptance letter.

[00:04:54] There were only two dates. I mean, my dream was always A&M. And so when I first have played a player like tech- have played or UTSA know these other schools, those coming out of high school. I was excited, but I knew I couldn't afford that. And I knew that was a very long shot from. Like I could afford any living or something like that at a time because I wasn't able to work. And so, I mean, it was

bittersweet really at first because it was exciting that I got accepted to begin with. But I knew I wasn't able to attend these colleges. So that's why, like, once I knew I was going to like a community college at first. But I think after that, when I finally got my acceptance for Texas A&M for undergrad, I mean, my parents of all we grew up here in College Station. So we always were like we're like part of the community, like we want to be Aggies, but we were really Aggies. So it was like exciting for all of us who finally fit into the whole culture of why we really grew up in the middle of the first day on campus.

[00:06:03] Tell me about the first day in campus, how was it? I was really lost. I think the the little events that occurred.

[00:06:09] Think is called HOWDY week, that campuses holds out there, really? So for all, you know, getting to know around on campus, different building stuff like that. So I wasn't as lost because I can really give my I can find myself around campus like I can. I know I can follow GPS, but I mean, I was never a customer to like overcrowded spaces, sidewalks, overcrowded is all over the place. Therefore, we did not talk about all of my classes, like when the teacher said, like, raise your hand if you have like something to add to discussion. I was too scared to say anything because I would always think like I would say something stupid, like something nobody knew. So I had that mentality that I didn't belong there. I know my very first day. I seriously like I use one thing. My first day I took a class where we worked on my design, Photoshop, things like that autoCAD. And I mean, I've never even heard of these programs before. Before that days, I felt like completely out of place. Everyone kind under a knew how to work these programs. And I was like, this is like a first step for me. And I really feel out of place.