

*You work hard.  
Let us help you  
reach high.*





# NO MATTER WHERE YOU DECIDE TO APPLY, AMHERST COLLEGE CAN HELP.

As one of the nation's leading liberal arts colleges, we know firsthand what the best colleges look for in a student. We know that your potential—not your ability to pay—is the key to accessing a world-class education at highly selective colleges and universities. In turn, these schools offer unparalleled resources and open doors to opportunities around the globe.

To make sure that you find the best colleges and to help you navigate the application and financial aid processes, we invite you to join our Telementoring Program. The program, which is free, will connect you to trained mentors who come from backgrounds similar to yours. All mentors are Amherst College students. Many of them are the first in their families to attend college—all of them needed substantial financial aid. They're available to help you research colleges, complete applications and select the offer that's right for you. You'll communicate with them by e-mail and telephone.

THE TELEMENTORING PROGRAM

at AMHERST COLLEGE

# HOW CAN TELEMENTORING HELP ME?

*Telementoring addresses  
four stages of the college  
application process:*

1.

2.

3.

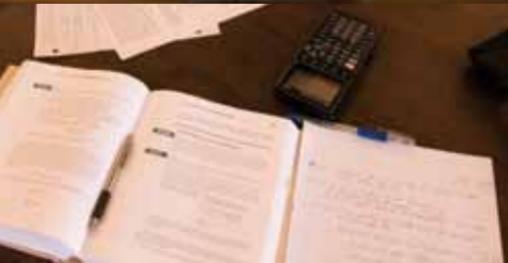
4.



**COLLEGE SEARCH:** Telementors can help you discover what's out there, including schools that you might not even know exist. They can help you decide what you're looking for in a school and teach you how to assess which ones match your interests and personality.



**APPLICATION:** Telementors can assist you with all aspects of the application process. Their expertise ranges from how to construct a strong application essay to how to obtain a fee waiver.



**FINANCIAL AID:** Telementors help you navigate the FAFSA, PROFILE and other financial aid applications. They also can help you interpret and compare financial aid offers, including loans and scholarships.



**ADJUSTMENT AND SOCIAL ISSUES:** Telementors can answer any questions you have about daily life at a highly selective college. Whether you want to know about the workload or how people dress, you have a peer to ask.

# WHO ARE THE TELEMENTORS?

*Telementors are full-time Amherst College students who have been extensively trained in admission and financial aid procedures. They also have real-life experience with the process—and know what it's like to be from diverse backgrounds.*



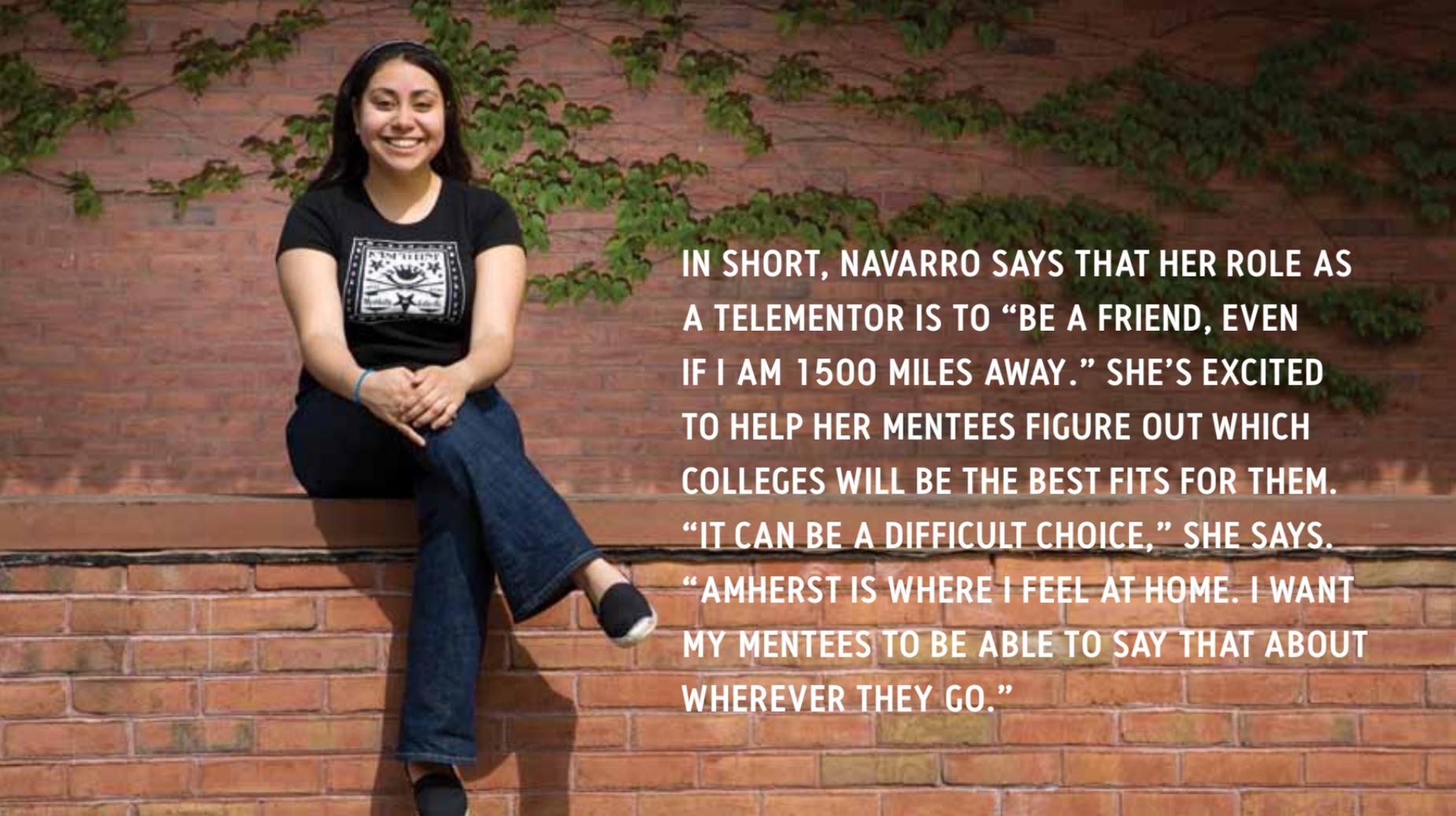
My senior year in high school was really stressful. I didn't think I would end up getting in anywhere that I wanted to go and, if I did, I didn't know how I would pay for it. Then there was the work of writing all those application essays while trying to do well in AP courses. The Telementoring Program would have been great for me. I'm glad I now have the chance to help lessen the burden for someone else. Students from low-income backgrounds need to know that it's very, very possible to go to a prestigious college.

**TELEMENTOR CLAIRE RANN, RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS**



I expected to attend one of California's public universities like other family members had done. Coming from Berkeley to a small liberal arts college in New England was a bit of a culture shock—it took some time to transition. But Amherst has been welcoming. As a telementor, I connect with high school students who also are discovering the advantages of liberal arts colleges. Being able to afford the tuition at a private college is one of their concerns. When students learn that some institutions offer need-based aid, it really expands their sense of what is possible. I can relate to that—Amherst's generous financial aid is a big part of why I'm here.

**TELEMENTOR MICHAEL WHITE II, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA**



**IN SHORT, NAVARRO SAYS THAT HER ROLE AS A TELEMENTOR IS TO “BE A FRIEND, EVEN IF I AM 1500 MILES AWAY.” SHE’S EXCITED TO HELP HER MENTEES FIGURE OUT WHICH COLLEGES WILL BE THE BEST FITS FOR THEM. “IT CAN BE A DIFFICULT CHOICE,” SHE SAYS. “AMHERST IS WHERE I FEEL AT HOME. I WANT MY MENTEES TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT ABOUT WHEREVER THEY GO.”**

## TELEMENTOR YASMIN NAVARRO

HOUSTON, TEXAS

MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY

While attending a large public high school in Houston, Yasmin Navarro never expected to someday enroll at a prestigious liberal arts college in New England. “I’d never heard of Amherst College and didn’t know about liberal arts colleges,” she admits. In fact, she says she had no idea how even to apply to college, since she was the first person in her family to do so.

Navarro is grateful to have had assistance from a nonprofit program that links bright, motivated low-income students with educational and scholarship opportunities. Now, as a telementor, she is trying to help other high school students from similar backgrounds discover the opportunities offered by Amherst and other highly selective liberal arts colleges.

“I mentor four students,” she says. “We talk about how high school is going and their options for college. I can relate to what they are going through.”

Along with helping her mentees navigate the application process and answering questions about financial aid forms, Navarro also serves as a sounding board for concerns about fitting in at an elite college. “I wondered about class differences at Amherst,” she recalls. “But I found that everyone was on a level field. You don’t need money to do anything that is school-sponsored—everything is paid for by Amherst.”

In short, Navarro says that her role as a telementor is to “be a friend, even if I am 1500 miles away.” She’s excited to help her mentees figure out which colleges will be the best fits for them. “It can be a difficult choice,” she says. “Amherst is where I feel at home. I want my mentees to be able to say that about wherever they go.”

# ON THE FLIP SIDE: THE TELEMENTEE EXPERIENCE

*Does the Telementoring Program really help students who are getting ready for college?*

*Here's what some telementees have to say:*

The Telementoring Program allowed me to ask questions that you wouldn't normally ask an admission officer. I asked my mentor about everything—classes, professors, social life, race relations, dorms and class size. What other colleges did she apply to, and why did she ultimately choose Amherst? What did she think of the colleges that she visited? I gained detailed information from the perspective of a student who has a background similar to mine. I know I have my mentor's support and concern, regardless of where I decide to attend college.

**ANDREW, MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA**

I've asked my mentor for help in revising my essays. I've also asked questions about recommendations and about how to cope with the college admissions process in general. I had a range of worries: Is my SAT score too low? Will one B+ destroy my academic record? Learning what to expect and how to avoid common mistakes has been immeasurably helpful to me.

**TONY, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA**



*Whether you're a junior just starting to explore colleges or a senior ready to apply, the Telementoring Program offers hands-on and comprehensive support from trained mentors. The focus is helping you find the college or university that's right for you, wherever that might be.*

*Read more about the program, meet more mentors, and check out other resources available to mentees at [www.amherst.edu/admission/telementoring](http://www.amherst.edu/admission/telementoring).*



# IN FACT, THE SKY IS THE LIMIT.

*It's time to explore the opportunities awaiting you. To reserve your place in the Telementoring Program, contact Alexandra Hurd, Assistant Dean of Admission, at [ashurd@amherst.edu](mailto:ashurd@amherst.edu) or (413) 542-2328.*