



Golestan School

Planting Knowledge. Cultivating Kindness.

PreK-5th Grade

Golestan School, Two-Year Scholarship Award Opportunity

The Opportunity

[Golestan School](#) in El Cerrito, CA is excited to announce a unique two-year scholarship for selected incoming fourth graders in our mixed-age grades 4/5 class for the academic years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027. Specifically, this opportunity is intended for families that want to instill a deep sense of kindness and courage in their children so that they may create positive change in the world. We're looking for thoughtful families that take environmental stewardship seriously, value rigorous experiential academics, while also holding a deep connection with the natural world.

Award Highlights

- **Value:** 80% tuition scholarship for two years (2025-2026 & 2026-2027)
- **Focus:** Collaborative, community-engaged, hands-on learning
- **Target:** Parents/guardians of current 3rd grade students with values that reflect those listed in Golestan's mission statement

Application Requirements

All families applying for the award must attend a [formal tour](#) of the school before the submission deadline.

Essential Documents:

1. Complete enrollment application
2. Academic transcripts (K-3 elementary report cards/progress reports)
3. Teacher recommendation form(s)
4. Cover letter explaining why your family is interested in this opportunity for your child
5. OPTIONAL: Short personal essay written by parents/guardians that demonstrates commitment to raising kind, thoughtful and courageous children.

Financial Considerations

Note: While this is not a needs-based scholarship, applicants demonstrating significant financial need through our [Clarity application](#) may receive additional consideration.

Action Items and Key Dates

What to Do Next

- [Review detailed program information online](#)
- Review full application requirements listed above
- [Schedule a campus tour](#)

If opting to apply

- Gather required documents
- Complete Golestan [enrollment application](#)
- Write cover letter (required) and personal essay (optional)

Application Deadline: Rolling Deadline

Contact: Enroll@Golestankids.com

Selection: If selected, invitations for your child to spend a day at the school and your family interview.

Decisions: Acceptance Email and letter will be sent.

More Information: Learn about our elementary school [here](#) and our application process [here](#).

About Golestan's Elementary School Program

Golestan's Mission

At Golestan Education, we partner with children, families and educators to create joyful learning environments that are collaborative, grounding and connected to the natural world. We do challenging and meaningful work that creates a community of kind, thoughtful, and courageous learners who will embrace diversity and steward our earth for future generations.

Golestan Education Offerings

- **Preschool and afterschool programs** with a fully integrated, experience-based approach in a Persian language immersion environment
- **Elementary school** using an academically rigorous, project-based learning approach with a global perspective
- **The Colab:** A pro-bono consulting collaborating with local and global educators and community organizations to create ideal learning environments for children

Educational Approach: EL Education

Our Elementary school uses an academically rigorous, project-based learning approach that integrates character development and academics called EL Education. [EL Education](#) is a national nonprofit that partners with K-12 schools to engage students and teachers in work that is challenging and meaningful.

Their mission is to "create classrooms where teachers can fulfill their highest aspirations, and students achieve more than they think is possible, becoming active contributors to building a better world." The mission of this transformational organization aligns closely with that of Golestan, and since 2022, we have been using their open-resource materials as a foundation for the curriculum and instruction at Golestan.

Student Achievement at Golestan

At EL Education schools, student achievement is measured in three ways:

1. Mastery of Knowledge and Skills
2. Character
3. High-Quality Work

Each year at Golestan, we create a strategic plan with three goals that align with these three areas of student achievement. Our staff collect data and collaboratively evaluate student growth in all three areas to ensure that Golestan children are learning beyond the basic knowledge and skills of the California and Common Core State Standards. Our focus is comprehensive: we

emphasize both the quality of the work they create and their character—two important skills they will need in their lives outside of school.

About Golestan's 4th/5th Grade Program

At Golestan, our mixed-age class of 4th and 5th-grade students are leaders who model the school values for younger students. They take an active role in developing the curriculum and projects of the class and think critically about how they can impact the design of our campus and contribute to a better world more broadly in our community outside the school.

Program Highlights

- Students take active leadership roles
- Significant time spent outdoors (rain or shine)
- Community field work opportunities
- Week-long overnight trips (alternating between Mosaic Project and Nature Bridge)
- Integrated curriculum including science, social studies, reading, writing, math, garden, music, and art in service of embracing diversity and stewarding the environment

Our 4th and 5th-grade program prepares students for middle school in a grounding, creative, and joyful environment, where they learn to use their courage and imagination to push themselves more than they thought possible—academically, artistically, and holistically as a human being.

[Sign up for a tour](#) today to see our students and teachers in action, and decide for yourself if this is where your child will thrive for fourth and fifth grade!

We Are Kind.

We Are Thoughtful.

We Are Courageous.