



## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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### ***The California Lottery Receives High Honors For Its Commitment to Responsible Gaming***

**SACRAMENTO** – The World Lottery Association (WLA) has recertified the California Lottery with the highest certification level for its Responsible Gaming programs.

The WLA Level Four certification is the highest level of responsible gaming certification recognized internationally, and the California Lottery was the first lottery in the United States to reach this level. Submissions are reviewed by the WLA’s international panel of corporate social responsibility experts. Lotteries that receive a WLA Level Four certification must demonstrate that responsible gaming principles are part of day-to-day operations and that they are continuously strengthening efforts to promote responsibility among players.

“We are incredibly proud of our commitment to responsible gaming. The recertification by the WLA is a testament to the strength of our programs reminding players to play responsibly,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “The California Lottery team has worked hard to achieve the WLA Level Four certification, and we appreciate the recognition.”

In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, the California Lottery made moving from a Level Three to a Level Four WLA certification a business goal and began the process of identifying new ways to further develop its Responsible Gaming program.

The WLA is recognized as the global authority on the lottery business. It comprises state-authorized lotteries and gaming organizations from more than 80 countries on six continents. The WLA’s Responsible Gaming Principles and Framework is a certification program that outlines lotteries’ level of commitment to corporate social responsibility and responsible gaming.

The WLA’s Responsible Gaming Principles and Framework allows for cultural and regional differences and is designed to complement and improve the safeguards that individual lottery operators have in place. The 10 Program elements are: Research, Employee Program, Retailer Program, Game Design, Remote Gaming Channels, Advertising and Marketing Communications, Player Education, Treatment Referral, Reporting and Measurement and Stakeholder Engagement.

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*the Lottery transferred to public education totaled more than \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2020- 21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely nondiscretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated almost \$8.4 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.*

[www.calottery.com](http://www.calottery.com)