

700 North Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
calottery.com



P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2021

Contact: Cathy Doyle Johnston

(916) 996-0206

019-21

Nearly Three Quarters of a Billion Dollars Up For Grabs This Week

SACRAMENTO – The California Lottery wants to remind the public that jackpots are at an estimated \$723 million! We hope to see some lucky Californians win big money this week.

Mega Millions® is at an estimated **\$475 million**. If someone gets all five numbers plus the Mega number tonight, it would be the 9th **largest *Mega Millions* jackpot** ever won.

Powerball® is at an estimated **\$201 million**. There have already been four *Powerball* jackpot wins nationwide this year, making it a very lucky option for players of this multi-state game.

California's own in-state jackpot game, ***SuperLotto Plus***®, is at a guaranteed **\$47 million**. An interesting thing about that, there has not been a single *SuperLotto Plus* jackpot win this year. The last time it was hit was on December 26, 2020 on a ticket sold in San Jose. A five-member lottery pool claimed that ticket.

All estimated jackpot amounts are before taxes. The estimated annuity and cash values are announced prior to drawing dates and are based on projected sales. Differences between the estimates and final amounts may exist because a substantial percentage of sales for both *Mega Millions* and *Powerball* occur on the drawing dates.

Mega Millions draws are Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. PT. Sales close at 7:45 p.m., so players must buy their tickets by then to qualify for this evening's draw.

Powerball draws happen Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7:59 p.m. PT. Sales close at 7 p.m. for this game, so players must buy their tickets by then to qualify for the draw.

SuperLotto Plus draws take place Wednesdays and Saturdays at 7:57 p.m., after the draw entry closes at 7:45 p.m. No sales or ticket validations can take place from 7:45 p.m. to 7:50 p.m., which is when a draw break separates sales during draw periods.

Tickets sold after 7:00 p.m. for **Powerball** and after 7:45 p.m. for **Mega Millions** or **SuperLotto Plus** are ineligible for that night's draw, but they are eligible for the following draw.

The California Lottery has more than 23,000 retail partners, most of which are essential businesses and still open in accordance with state and local public health guidelines. Please visit the California Lottery website at www.calottery.com for more information on how to play.

###

The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled approximately \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2018-19, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely non-discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated almost \$7 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. The California Lottery urges its customers to play responsibly. Problem gambling resources are available to anyone at 1-800- GAMBLER.

www.calottery.com