



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

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2022

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Mega Millions® Jackpot Grows to an Estimated \$685 Million to Close Out 2022

SACRAMENTO – A lucky California Lottery player may be popping champagne and celebrating early tonight if they win the last Mega Millions jackpot of 2022.

The estimated \$685 million jackpot has been growing since October 14th and tonight's draw will be the 22nd in this jackpot sequence.

Public education in California is already winning big thanks to this run to end the year. The California Lottery has raised an estimated \$52.1 million for public schools from this draw sequence alone.

Here are some fast facts for tonight's draw:

- Sales have been brisk, with more than 65 million Mega Millions tickets sold in California since the sequence began.
- More than 2.5 million of those tickets have been winners at various prize levels worth a combined \$15.4 Million.
- California's Mega Millions sales since the last draw on Tuesday are more than \$7.6 million as of this morning.
- The lump sum amount for anyone who wins the top prize tonight is an estimated \$347.8 million.

The California Lottery has more than 23,000 retail partner locations across the state. People can use an interactive map [here](#).

Mega Millions draws take place Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. PT. Players have to buy tickets before 7:45 p.m. on the day of the draw in order to be included. Any tickets purchased after 7:45 p.m. would be eligible for the following draw. Players can find all the details about Mega Millions, including odds of winning at any prize level, on the [California Lottery website](#). While winning numbers are available within minutes, news of any winners – including whether California sold any winning tickets – can take several hours to post while final results are certified at the national level.

The California Lottery media team is available for interviews on camera, on the phone, or via video conference today and throughout the weekend. For updates on any potential jackpot winners tonight in California, media should follow the Lottery on Twitter at [@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress).

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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 more than \$1.88 billion for fiscal year 2020-21, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely 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 \$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 the jackpots continue to grow, the California Lottery would also like to remind players to play responsibly and within their budgets. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

www.calottery.com