



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

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Close to \$600 Million up for Grabs for Tonight's Mega Millions® Draw

SACRAMENTO – Tonight's Mega Millions jackpot has climbed to an estimated \$565 million, and the excitement is growing right along with it.

The last time the Mega Millions jackpot was this high was on October 14th when two lucky players split a \$502 million jackpot. [One of those tickets was sold in San Jose.](#)

It was only five months ago on July 29th when a lottery ticket sold in Illinois hit the largest jackpot in Mega Millions history – an enormous \$1.337 billion. If no one hits all six numbers tonight, Friday's jackpot will climb to an estimated \$640 million.

Here are some fast facts for tonight's draw:

- The lump sum amount for anyone who wins the top prize tonight is an estimated \$293.6 million.
- This Mega Millions sequence began with a jackpot of \$20 million on October 18th and has rolled 20 times so far.
- The California Lottery has raised an estimated \$43.8 million for public education just from this rolling Mega Millions sequence.
- Nearly 55 million Mega Millions tickets have been sold in California for the sequence. More than 2.2 million of those tickets have been winners at various prize levels worth a combined \$13.8 million.

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](#).

The California Lottery media team is available for interviews on camera, on the phone, or via zoom. 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