

PRESS RELEASE

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California Public Education Wins Big With More Than \$50 Million Raised for Schools Thanks to Growing Powerball® Jackpot, Now an Estimated \$825 Million

SACRAMENTO – Tonight's Powerball jackpot has reached a mind-blowing \$825 million, and players here in California are fueling Lottery sales big time.

Tonight's draw will be the 37th since the last Powerball jackpot was hit back on August 6th, 2022. California's sales for this near three-month sequence total more \$132 million, which translates into an estimated \$52.8 million raised for California's public schools.

"Raising money for public education is the sole reason the Lottery exists," said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. "We love seeing jackpots get this high because it brings out more players, and in turn, that means more money for schools. It's exciting all the way around!"

Luck hit the Golden State in the last Powerball draw this past Wednesday as two tickets matched five numbers, each worth \$1.5 million. Those <u>tickets were sold</u> in Los Gatos and Rancho Cucamonga.

Here are some more Powerball fast facts for tonight's draw:

- The lump sum amount also known as the cash value for a ticket that hits the jackpot tonight is an estimated \$410.2 million.
- California Lottery's 23,000+ retail partner locations have also been winners, earning commissions and bonuses totaling an estimated \$7.7 million combined for selling Powerball tickets in this sequence.
- The largest prize won so far in California during this draw sequence is \$2.595 million from a ticket sold in Daly City. It matched five of the six winning numbers from the August 31st draw.
- The last time the Powerball jackpot was this high was back on January 5th when another California Lottery player split the massive \$632.6 million jackpot with a winner in Green Bay, WI.

• Tonight's \$825 million is the second largest Powerball jackpot in history behind an enormous \$1.5 billion jackpot back in 2016.

Powerball tickets are \$2 each. Tickets are sold in 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The deadline to buy Powerball tickets for tonight's draw is 7 p.m. PT. The draw happens at 7:59 p.m. PT.

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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