## BREAKING: Powerbal/® Jackpot Increases to an Estimated \$675 Million as Public Education Wins Big!

SACRAMENTO - Tonight's Powerball jackpot estimate has just been increased to $\$ 675$ million thanks to strong ticket sales across the country. Here in California, one big winner continues to be public education. Because the jackpot has been rolling since April, California Lottery has raised an estimated $\$ 47$ million for public schools, a number continues that's growing exponentially as sales climb throughout the Golden State today.

With the jackpot rolling over 34 times, the California Lottery has sold more than $\$ 117$ million worth of Powerball tickets during this draw sequence. The more than 23,000 stores and other retail locations that partner with California Lottery to sell Powerball tickets are reaping the rewards of brisk sales; they've earned an estimated $\$ 6.9$ million in commissions and bonuses combined.

If a player wins the jackpot tonight, they will have the choice between an annuitized prize worth an estimated $\$ 675$ million or a lump sum payment estimated at $\$ 340.9$ million; both prize options are before federal taxes. If the winner selects the annuity option, they will receive one immediate payment, followed by 29 annual payments that increase by 5\% each year.

If no one hits the jackpot tonight, it's projected to increase to a whopping $\$ 725$ million for Wednesday's draw.

The deadline to buy Powerball tickets for tonight's draw is 7 p.m. The draw happens at 7:59 p.m. PT. Tickets are $\$ 2$ per play, and approximately 80 cents of every ticket sold helps fund public schools from kindergarten through university in California.

As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would also like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money set aside for other things can 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.

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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 approximately $\$ 2$ billion for fiscal year 2021-22, 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 more than $\$ 8.8$ 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.
www.calottery.com

