

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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California Public Education Wins Big as the California Lottery Returns to the California State Fair!

SACRAMENTO – The California Lottery has returned to the California State Fair in Sacramento, bringing excitement, awareness about Lottery's important mission to support schools, and more chances for players to win big prizes and help education at the same time.

Visitors can stop by the *CA Lottery Live!* booth and try their luck with a wide range of Lottery games, including the newest *Scratchers*®. For those seeking extra excitement, players can spin the California Lottery wheel and have a chance to win fun promotional prizes.

"The California Lottery is a big draw for our fair goers," said Tom Martinez, CEO of Cal Expo and State Fair. "Our visitors are always in search of fun; that's why they come. The CA Lottery Live! experience not only brings enjoyment, it brings excitement in the form of really fun prizes, and it also brings a positive message in support of California's public schools. I can't think of a more winning experience for our visitors."

The Lottery's booth at the California State Fair is intended to boost awareness about the Lottery, its games and its mission, which is to raise additional money for public schools throughout the state. By engaging attendees in a fun-filled and interactive experience, the Lottery highlights its beneficial impact on California. In fact, approximately ninety-five cents of every dollar spent on California Lottery games goes back to the community in the form of prizes, contributions to public schools, and commissions and bonuses for the 23,000+ businesses that partner with Lottery to sell games.

Lottery sales across the state are currently being fueled by three growing jackpots:

- Tonight's *Powerball*® jackpot is an estimated \$1 billion with the drawing slated for 7:59 pm Pacific Time.
- The current *Mega Millions*® jackpot has grown to an estimated \$720 million, after no one matched all six numbers last night; the next draw is Friday.
- Last, but not least, California's in-state game SuperLotto Plus® has a guaranteed jackpot for tonight of \$77 million – the highest it's been in nearly four years. That game draws tonight as well.

The California Lottery has raised more than \$41 billion for public schools statewide since voters created the organization in 1984. Of that total, more than \$1.5 billion has gone to Sacramento County

schools. To see the funding received by other counties and school districts, you can visit the <u>Lottery's</u> website and access this interactive map.



(Fairgoers enjoy the *CA Lottery Live!* booth at the California State Fair in Sacramento on July 19, 2023.)

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