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PRESS RELEASE

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CA Lottery Retailers Win Big With Powerball® Jackpot at an Estimated \$550 Million for Tonight's Draw

SACRAMENTO – Stores across the Golden State are reaping the rewards of the latest big *Powerball* jackpot. Tonight's jackpot, which has been growing since late July, has earned the [23,000+ California Lottery retailers](#) an estimated \$5.7 million total in commissions just for selling *Powerball* tickets.

Tonight's jackpot is an estimated \$550 million annuitized prize, or a lump sum payment estimated at \$266 million. If the winner selects the annuity option, they would receive one immediate payment followed by annual payments that increase by 5% each year.

California is no stranger to big *Powerball* jackpots. The last jackpot was hit on July 19 [when a lucky ticket sold in Los Angeles matched all six numbers to win \\$1.08 billion](#), the third-largest *Powerball* jackpot ever won. In November of last year, a California Lottery retail partner sold the world-record-winning jackpot ticket worth \$2.04 billion. The player who won that prize released a statement highlighting his gratitude for the [money California Lottery raises for public schools](#).

Powerball tickets are \$2 per play, with the draw happening tonight at 7:59pm Pacific Time. Approximately 80 cents from every ticket sold in California [helps public education](#).

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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 \$2.07 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 \$8.85 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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