



## PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2023

[PIO@calottery.com](mailto:PIO@calottery.com)

[@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

### ***California Lottery Raises Nearly \$60 Million and Counting for California Public Schools Ahead of Tonight's \$785 Million Powerball® Jackpot***

**SACRAMENTO** – California Lottery players are getting in on the chance to play for the fourth-largest *Powerball* jackpot tonight, and they're getting in by the millions. The jackpot now stands at an estimated \$785 million for tonight's draw.

This jackpot has been growing for more than two months. There's been 28 consecutive drawings without a top-prize winner. Because the jackpot keeps rolling, excitement is building. Thanks to ticket sales in California, the Lottery has been able to raise an estimated \$53.8 million for public education.

"We're right back in this thrilling environment – that feeling when the jackpot is creeping towards a billion dollars," said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. "It's exciting not only because someone in California could once again hit it big, but also for those who benefit from the Lottery, which are public schools. Raising money for education is the reason the Lottery exists, and it always makes us feel good to see these jackpots climb because it allows us to raise even more."

A California ticket has won each of the top three *Powerball* jackpots in history, all of which reached the billion-dollar mark.

#### **Top 3 *Powerball* Jackpots**

1. [\\$2.04 billion](#) – Nov. 7, 2022 – CA
2. [\\$1.586 billion](#) – Jan. 13, 2016 – CA, FL, TN
3. [\\$1.08 billion](#) – July 19, 2023 – CA

The cash value of tonight's jackpot is \$367 million. *Powerball* tickets are \$2 each, and approximately 80 cents from each ticket sold in California helps schools fund supplies, programs, and services that might not otherwise exist without Lottery funds. California Lottery recently announced that for the first time in its history, more than [\\$2.07 billion was raised for public education](#) in a single year.

###

*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.*

[www.calottery.com](http://www.calottery.com)