



## PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2024

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

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

### ***No Joke: Powerball® Jackpot Jumps to \$1 BILLION as CA Lottery Names Two More Big Winners***

**SACRAMENTO** – This is not an April Fool’s Day *Powerball* prank – tonight’s jackpot really is now estimated at a staggering \$1 billion, and if no one hits it, it’ll roll to a projected \$1.09 billion for Wednesday.

The *Powerball* jackpot has been inching closer to a billion bucks since it was last hit on New Year’s Day. Tonight’s will be the 39<sup>th</sup> drawing in the sequence. *Powerball*’s longest stretch without a jackpot winner is 41 straight drawings, which has happened twice – both ending with single jackpot-winning tickets sold in California:

- November 22, 2022 - [\\$2.04 billion winning ticket](#) sold in Altadena
- October 4, 2021 - [\\$699.8 million winning ticket](#) sold in Morro Bay

The current *Powerball* sequence bodes well for California’s public schools. From every ticket sold here, approximately 80 cents [helps schools earn supplemental funding](#). Just in the past three months since this giant jackpot has been growing, California Lottery estimates it has raised an additional **\$70.5 million for public education** just from *Powerball* sales alone.

Meantime, the California Lottery is also today announcing the names of two recent big *Powerball* winners, both of whom have now [come forward](#). Both matched five correct numbers to win more than a million dollars each – not bad for a couple of second-place prizes.

First, **Jainimar Ramones Aponte** won [more than \\$1.2 million](#) in the October 4 *Powerball* drawing. That winning ticket came from the Walmart on Elk Grove Boulevard in Elk Grove.

A little more than a month later, **Enrique Montenegro** also won [more than \\$1.2 million](#) in the November 22 *Powerball* drawing. His ticket came from the Stater Bros. Market at 43396 Florida Ave. in Hemet.

If one person wins tonight’s top prize, they’ll have the choice of taking the final jackpot total in 30 annual payments, or they can take the lump sum cash value, which is currently estimated to be \$483.8 million.



calottery

education

calottery.com

Tonight's [Powerball](#) drawing happens at 7:59pm PT, and anyone hoping to win tonight has to buy their tickets by 7pm at one of the more than [23,000 California Lottery retail partner locations](#).

###

The mission of the California Lottery is to raise additional funding for public education, helping to supplement school budgets for K-12 as well as colleges and universities. **The California Lottery has raised more than \$43.8 billion for public schools** through the responsible sale of its games since 1985. Lottery funding for schools is largely discretionary, so administrators and educators can use Lottery money for instructional programs and services they may not otherwise afford. The California Lottery features eight [draw games](#) and dozens of new instant [Scratchers](#) games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, [retailer commissions and bonuses](#), and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found [here](#). 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.



calottery

education

calottery.com