



PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 12, 2024

PIO@calottery.com

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Jackpots Keep Jumping! Tonight's Top Prize for Mega Millions® Offers Players a Chance at \$735 Million

SACRAMENTO – This week is packing a *powerful* punch with *mega* money up for grabs! No one across the U.S. hit the [Powerball® jackpot](#) Monday night, boosting the game's top prize to an estimated \$559 million for Wednesday's draw. Meantime, the [Mega Millions jackpot](#) stands at an estimated \$735 million ahead of tonight's 27th draw in this roll.

No one has hit the *Mega Millions* jackpot since December 8, when [two tickets sold in Southern California](#) both matched all six winning numbers. If someone wins tonight, the estimated cash value of the big prize is \$356.7 million.

The most recent *Mega Millions* draw this past Friday night resulted in 167,732 winning tickets sold across California, with players winning money from the eight prize tiers other than the jackpot. The odds of winning the *Mega Millions* jackpot are 1 in 302,575,350, but the odds of winning at *any* prize level are just 1 in 24.

California's public school system is also benefitting big from these rising jackpots. Thanks to this more than three-month jackpot roll for *Mega Millions*, **California Lottery has been able to raise an additional \$56.1 million for public education.** Raising money for schools through the responsible sale of games is the California Lottery's sole mission.

The California Lottery also reminds players that while these growing jackpots can be exciting, people should not spend beyond their means. Help from professional counselors is available via the Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER, or people can text "SUPPORT" to 53342 for free, confidential help 24 hours a day.

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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.



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