



PRESS RELEASE

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As the Powerball® Jackpot Approaches \$1 Billion, CA Lottery Reminds Players – Don't Buy Tickets Online

SACRAMENTO – If no one hits tonight's *Powerball* jackpot, currently estimated at \$935 million, the top prize is projected to roll to a staggering \$975 million for Monday. Either way, it'll be the fifth largest prize for the game.

As jackpots jump, more people tend to play, and the California Lottery wants to remind players not to buy lottery tickets online or through a digital app. Anyone who buys their tickets via a digital device is **not eligible to win**; the California Lottery is prohibited by law from knowingly paying a prize on any ticket acquired through a third-party courier service.

There are [more than 23,000 in-person locations](#) where California Lottery players can legally buy their tickets for tonight's draw.

Tonight's *Powerball* jackpot has been growing since early January after someone in Michigan hit it. Since then, there have been 37 consecutive drawings without a top prize winner. Tonight's will be the 38th drawing in this three-month jackpot run, which has allowed the California Lottery to raise **tens of millions of dollars for public education** just from *Powerball* sales alone. *Powerball* tickets are \$2 each, and from every ticket sold in California, about 80 cents [helps schools](#).

Tonight's [Powerball](#) drawing happens at 7:59pm PT, and anyone hoping to win tonight has to buy their ticket by 7pm.

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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.



education
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