



PRESS RELEASE

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Will There Be a Weekend Winner With \$1.2 Billion in Jackpots up for Grabs?

SACRAMENTO – It could turn out to be a winning weekend for California Lottery players as the [Mega Millions® jackpot](#) tonight is up to an estimated \$687 million, and the [Powerball® jackpot](#) for tomorrow night isn't far behind at an estimated \$521 million.

Lottery Game	Jackpot	Estimated Cash Value	Next Draw	Last Draw	Winning Numbers
POWERBALL	\$521 MILLION*	\$249,600,000	SAT/MAR 9, 2024	WED/MAR 6, 2024	6, 19, 28, 44, 60, 10
MEGA MILLIONS	\$687 MILLION*	\$332,300,000	FRI/MAR 8, 2024	TUE/MAR 5, 2024	2, 49, 50, 61, 70, 14

With all eyes on *Mega Millions* tonight, here are some fast facts about the jackpot, which has been growing for exactly three months:

- At an estimated \$687 million, the jackpot is the game's sixth largest ever. That figure is the prize estimated should a winner take 30 annual payments. The one-time lump sum payment for any single winner tonight would be an estimated \$332 million. These numbers are subject to change once final sales are tallied.



- California schools are reaping the rewards of brisk ticket sales. This *Mega Millions* jackpot sequence will contribute an estimated \$51.9 million to public education in the state.
- The largest *Mega Millions* jackpot was \$1.602 billion on August 8, 2023, with one winning ticket sold in Florida.
- *Powerball* holds the record for highest jackpot ever, with a \$2.04 billion ticket sold back in November of 2022, followed by the second highest ever with a \$1.765 billion *Powerball* jackpot last October; [both of those wins happened right here in California](#).

Both *Mega Millions* and *Powerball* tickets are \$2 each, and approximately 80 cents of every ticket sold in California [goes to help fund schools](#). Players can buy tickets for tonight's *Mega Millions* draw up until 7:45 p.m. at any of the California Lottery's more than [23,000 retail partner locations](#). The draw happens at 8 p.m.

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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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