



PRESS RELEASE

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PIO@calottery.com

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Every Dollar Counts: Two Giant Jackpots Fuel Funding for California Public Education

SACRAMENTO – The *Powerball*® and *Mega Millions*® jackpots are each on a months-long roll right now, together offering players an estimated \$1.9 billion. Thousands of California Lottery players are getting in on the games, sending ticket sales soaring and ultimately generating more supplemental funding for public schools.

“Helping boost the bottom line for public education is the sole reason the California Lottery exists,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “It’s important to remember that the money we raise for schools is supplemental and not designed to replace traditional revenue streams, but we know our dollars are making a difference. Lottery funds contribute to programs and services students might not otherwise have access to.”

Tonight’s [Powerball](#) jackpot is estimated at \$800 million, and tomorrow night’s [Mega Millions](#) jackpot is projected to be a staggering \$1.1 billion. Both prize pots have been growing for months, and in that time, **California Lottery estimates it’s raised an additional \$134.1 million for public education** just from sales of these games combined.

For every \$2 *Powerball* or *Mega Millions* ticket sold in California, about 80 cents helps fund schools. The California Lottery website features an interactive map at [this link](#) for users to see how much funding has been raised at the local level – either by county or, in many cases, by individual school district.

For more information about these games, players can visit the [California Lottery website](#).

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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](#). California Lottery is also committed to promoting [responsible gaming](#). Anyone who shows signs of a gambling problem, or knows someone who does, can get free, confidential help by calling the CA Problem Gambling Hotline at 1-800-GAMBLER.



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