



PRESS RELEASE

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Powerball® Jackpot Springs Forward to \$532 Million

SACRAMENTO – Tonight’s *Powerball* draw, which offers players an estimated \$532 million top prize, will be the 30th straight drawing in this jackpot run with no big winner.

This is already the second *Powerball* prize pot to top half a billion dollars this year. The jackpot has been climbing since being hit on New Year’s Day when it was up over \$800 million.

California Lottery players have the chance this week at getting in on two separate games, each offering hundreds of millions of dollars up for grabs. Alongside the [big *Powerball* jackpot](#), *Mega Millions* has also been climbing; its jackpot is currently estimated [\\$735 million for tomorrow](#) night. The last time both multi-state games had advertised jackpots above half a billion dollars simultaneously was back in July of last year. Each of those wound up over a billion dollars before the jackpots were hit.

“This is all great news for public education in California,” said Carolyn Becker, California Lottery spokesperson. “When jackpots rise, we see a spike in ticket sales, which in turn gives a boost to schools. About 80 cents of every *Powerball* or *Mega Millions* ticket sold here helps fund public schools, and that’s the whole reason the California Lottery exists in the first place.”

Thanks to the growing *Powerball* jackpot ahead of tonight’s drawing, California Lottery has already raised an estimated [\\$36.7 million more for public education](#), just from ticket sales of that game alone. Tonight’s *Powerball* drawing is slated for 7:59pm PT.

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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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