



PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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California Lottery Promotes Problem Gambling Awareness

SACRAMENTO – The California Lottery is teaming up once again with the [California Office of Problem Gambling](#) to help raise awareness about gambling addiction and the various [treatment and prevention options](#) available for free.

March is National Problem Gambling Awareness Month, dedicated to helping those who are struggling with gambling disorders and educating Californians about free treatment resources that are available. Gambling addiction can lead to devastating personal consequences.

“The California Lottery is committed to helping our players stay safe and play responsibly,” said California Lottery Director Harjinder K. Shergill Chima. “Confidential and free help is available for anyone who needs it any time, and that’s something we want all of our customers and their families to know.”

Help from professionally trained counselors is available via the Problem Gambling Help Line, **1-800-GAMBLER**. Players or their loved ones can also text **“SUPPORT”** to **53342** or visit 800gambler.chat for free, confidential help 24 hours a day.



CALIFORNIA LOTTERY SUPPORTS
National Problem Gambling
Awareness Month MARCH **1-31**

NOW is the time to take the first step.
For Free Confidential Help Call:
1-800-GAMBLER (426-2537)
Text SUPPORT to 53342
Chat online at 800gambler.chat



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The California Lottery also communicates regularly about responsible gaming through social media, [its website](#), and the “Play Responsibly” messaging printed on the back of every Lottery game as pictured here.

ADDITIONAL GAME INFORMATION:

- A word must contain at least three letters.
- A word cannot be formed diagonally, from right to left or bottom to top.
- Letters combined to form a complete word must appear in an unbroken horizontal or vertical string of letters in the PUZZLE. An unbroken string of letters: (a) cannot be interrupted by a black space and (b) must contain every single letter square between two black spaces.
- Letters forming a word filling a complete word space can only be used to form one complete WORD (i.e., in the word “SNOWSHOE,” “SNOW” and “SHOE” are not considered separate words and do not count as such; “SNOWSHOE” counts as one complete word).
- See example of a “complete” word. Every single letter in the unbroken string must (a) be revealed in the “YOUR LETTERS” box and (b) be included to form a “word.” Words within a complete WORD such as “A” or “CAN” within “CANDY” are not complete WORDS since they do not contain at least 3 letters and completely fill the word space.
- Prizes of \$599 or less can be redeemed at participating Lottery Retailers.
- Claim prizes of \$600 or more by completing a Winner Claim Form and mailing it to the address on the form.
- Players winning a free ticket in this game are entitled to a free ticket valued at thirty dollars (\$30).
- Deadlines: Claim all prizes no later than 180 days after the announced game end date. See a Lottery Retailer or visit [calottery.com](#) for game end dates.
- After game start, some prizes including top prizes, may have been claimed.
- Lottery Information: 1-800-LOTTERY
- Must be 18 years or older to purchase, play, or claim.
- **Play responsibly. Problem Gambling Help Line: 1-800-GAMBLER.**



2ND CHANCE For another way to win prizes, submit eligible non-winning Scratchers through our mobile app or at [calottery.com/2ndChance](#). Mail-in entries are not accepted.

Print Name (One Person Only) _____
 () _____
 Daytime Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 SIGNATURE _____

These efforts, along with paid advertising, support California’s efforts to promote Problem Gambling Awareness Month and are a significant part of the California Lottery’s responsible gaming program, which has received international recognition with the highest certification (Level 4) from the [World Lottery Association](#). To learn more about the program, visit <https://www.calottery.com/play-responsibly>.

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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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