



PRESS RELEASE

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Mega Millions® - The First Draw of the New Game Yields Tens of Thousands of Winners in California

19,202 Winning Tickets – And That’s Just for Matching the Gold Mega Ball!

SACRAMENTO – The newly enhanced *Mega Millions* draw game drew its first numbers Tuesday night, turning tens of thousands of California Lottery players into winners!

Notably, more than 19,000 Californians won between \$10 and \$50 just for matching the gold Mega Ball. In past drawings, a match like that would’ve been a tie game, a “push,” a wash, or any other euphemism for breaking even. Break-even prizes are now a thing of the past under the new *Mega Millions* structure. Depending on the multiplier, now matching just the Mega Ball is always a win, euphemism not required.

While no one anywhere in the country hit the jackpot, a grand total of 28,969 California Lottery players won at other prize levels. A brand-new break-down of each prize tier, complete with automatic prize multipliers ranging from 2X-10X, can now be seen on the California Lottery website at calottery.com/draw-games/mega-millions.

One lucky player had a bigger surprise, matching four out of five numbers plus the Mega Ball to take home \$23,330. That player’s base prize of \$11,665 doubled with an automatic multiplier of 2X applied. That winning ticket was sold at the Vons Express at 29910 Murrieta Hot Springs Road in Murrieta.

The estimated jackpot for the next draw this Friday, April 11, has jumped to \$72 million, thanks in part to strong sales.

“Congratulations to all of last night’s players who joined in on the first drawing. Every Mega Millions entry is worth nearly \$2 for California public schools and helps support a wide variety of programs throughout the state,” said Carolyn Becker, spokesperson for the California Lottery. “The diverse range of programs is something we are so



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proud to support. From fire cadets to football players, and music to marine biology, there is an amazing set of innovative programs using California Lottery funds to help make students' dreams a reality every day."

Public education programs supported by California Lottery funds are highlighted on the [California Lottery YouTube channel](#).

Since *Mega Millions* first launched in 2002, the game has produced seven winners of billion-dollar jackpots, all in different states. One [lucky California Lottery player](#) joined that list just this past December.

Mega Millions is a national game with tickets sold in 45 states, Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Drawings happen at 8 p.m. Pacific Time on Tuesdays and Fridays.

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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 \$46 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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