



## PRESS RELEASE

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[PIO@calottery.com](mailto:PIO@calottery.com)  
[@calotterypress](https://twitter.com/calotterypress)

# ***Mega Millions® Jackpot Jumps Up – But Will All Winners Step Forward?***

## *\$4.6 Million Ticket Sold in Tarzana Remains Unclaimed*

**SACRAMENTO** – The [Mega Millions jackpot](#) is still climbing, giving players another exciting chance at big winnings. The prize has jumped up to an estimated \$980 million ahead of tonight's draw, and the California Lottery is reminding players to always check their tickets.

A single ticket with a five-number match, missing only the Mega Ball, in tonight's drawing will be worth more than \$4 million. Players are reminded [don't throw a ticket away](#) until it's scanned with the [California Lottery App](#), or at the nearest [California Lottery retailer](#).

## ***Tarzana's Big Winner Still a Mystery***

One lucky ticket worth nearly \$4.6 million remains unclaimed and is now halfway to its expiration date. The ticket matched five of the six winning numbers from the August 8 *Mega Millions* draw, missing only the Mega numbers. The ticket purchased at Spirits World Liquors at 18523 Burbank Blvd. in Tarzana, will need to be claimed by February 4, 2026.

Players have 180 days from the date of the draw to claim a *Mega Millions* prize other than the jackpot. Jackpot winners have up to one year to claim.

## ***Fueling Education, One Ticket at a Time***

Every ticket, claimed or not, helps make a difference. From this *Mega Millions* run, an additional **\$85 million has been raised for public education** after 39 draws without a winner. Two dollars from every *Mega Millions* game played benefit schools across the state. The California Lottery is proud to contribute and [support arts and music education](#), [athletics](#), [career technical training](#), and [after-school enrichment](#), which help millions of California students each year.

Every play supports vital programs, and every game is a win for California's public schools. To see where California Lottery funds are used, people can visit the interactive map and California Lottery financial reports at [www.calottery.com/en/who-benefits](http://www.calottery.com/en/who-benefits).



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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 \$48 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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