



## NEWS RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Contact Kara Lee Ford at 501-683-1646 for more information.*

### **Lottery Jackpots Continue to Grow to Huge Amounts** *Mega Millions Jackpot Bumped to \$615 Million, Powerball Hits \$550 Million*

Jan. 12, 2021

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – Both Mega Millions® and Powerball® jackpots continue to grow offering a combined jackpot amount of more than \$1 billion. The Mega Millions jackpot for tonight’s drawing has been bumped to \$615 million, and the Powerball drawing tomorrow night will be for a \$550 million jackpot.

This is the highest combined jackpot total for the two games since October 2018 when the Mega Millions jackpot reached its all-time record of \$1.537 billion. This is only the second time that both games have simultaneously had jackpots larger than \$500 million.

If won, the Mega Millions jackpot would be the fourth largest in Mega Millions’ history and the eighth largest jackpot of any lottery game in U.S. history. If the Powerball jackpot is won, it would be the ninth largest jackpot in Powerball game history. This is the highest the Powerball jackpot has been since March 2019.

Currently ASL is offering a special promotion called the 5-Buck Bundle. For just \$5, a player receives a Powerball ticket with Power Play®, a Mega Millions ticket and a free Natural State Jackpot ticket.

ASL Director Eric Hagler said he wants to remind players to play responsibly.

“We want our players to have fun, especially when there are two big rolling jackpots,” Hagler said. “However, people should set a limit and stick to it and treat money spent on the lottery as an entertainment cost.”

He said a player’s selection method of selecting numbers does not affect the probability of matching the winning numbers drawn. There are more winners from Quick Picks because most purchases are Quick Picks.

“Players have a 1 in 24.9 chance of winning a prize when the advertised jackpot is \$40 million, and they still have a 1 in 24.9 chance of winning a prize when the advertised jackpot is \$1 billion,”

Hagler said. “Even if there are more tickets sold in a particular drawing, the odds of winning a prize are the same.”

Hagler said every game people buy helps fund scholarships for Arkansas students. Since 2009, the lottery has helped raised more than \$1 billion in proceeds which equates to more than 600,000 scholarships.

### **About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery**

More than 92 cents of every dollar of ASL revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions, and other expenses in Arkansas. Since 2009, the lottery has raised more than \$1 billion in proceeds for scholarships. More than 600,000 college scholarships have been awarded to Arkansans. The lottery has awarded more than \$3.4 billion in prizes to players, about \$298 million in retailer commissions and provided more than \$140 million in state and federal tax revenue.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit [MyArkansasLottery.com](http://MyArkansasLottery.com) for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions – and to join The Club for free. To hear winning numbers, call the Winning Numbers Hotline at 501-682-IWON (4966). To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.

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