



WINNER NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – For more information, contact Ashley McNatt at 501-683-1866.

Mountain Home Woman Wins \$260,000 Natural State Jackpot

March 12, 2024

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Mountain Home resident B. Patel recently claimed the \$260,000 Natural State Jackpot. She claimed her prize at the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Claim Center on March 11.

The winning ticket was sold at Phillips Express on 1954 Buzzard Roost in Mountain Home. The winning numbers were 3, 5, 13, 23, and 27.

Patel and her boyfriend purchased the winning ticket on Friday, March 8, while running errands. Though they enjoy the occasional scratch-off, Patel and her boyfriend much prefer draw games like Natural State Jackpot, Mega Millions® and Powerball®—especially when jackpots are high.

“We wanted to try [the Natural State Jackpot] again, since we hadn’t in a while,” Patel shared with lottery officials.

Through playing together a few times each month, Patel and her boyfriend have developed a routine: he buys the tickets, and they consult each other about which numbers to select.

“I’ll ask, ‘What number do you feel?’” Patel said.

This time, the couple purchased a \$1 ticket for that night’s Natural State Jackpot drawing and used their birthdays as their digits.

Their strategy proved successful: the couple matched all five winning numbers and landed the \$260,000 jackpot. However, they were unaware of the win until around 1 a.m. the following Monday, when Patel's boyfriend decided to check their numbers online.

Stunned, Patel and her boyfriend carried their excitement into the claim center.

"We're calm!" Patel said, smiling. We're trying to be calm."

The couple has no definite plans for their win, but they have considered sharing some with their parents.

The Natural State Jackpot reset to \$50,000 immediately following Patel's win and has now climbed to \$60,000.

For more information about lottery games and how to play, visit MyArkansasLottery.com.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

The Arkansas Scholarship Lottery (ASL) creates winning people, winning futures, and winning moments. Since 2009, the ASL has sold over \$7.2 billion and returned more than \$1.3 billion for scholarships to benefit Arkansas students. More than 720,000 college scholarships distributed by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education have been awarded to Arkansans. The lottery has awarded more than \$4.9 billion in prizes to players, more than \$409 million in retailer commissions, and provided more than \$175 million in state and federal tax revenue.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Visit MyArkansasLottery.com for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions – and to join The Club for free. To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.



The image shows a check from the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery. The check is blue with white text and features a yellow silhouette of a person holding it. The check is for the amount of \$260,000, payable to B. PATEL. The date is MARCH 11, 2024. The check is for the Natural State JACKPOT and includes the memo #THISISWINNING. The Arkansas Scholarship Lottery logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom left, there is a call to action for the Problem Gambling Helpline.

Arkansas
Scholarship Lottery

Natural State
JACKPOT

Pay to the Order of
B. PATEL

Date **MARCH 11, 2024**

\$260,000

Memo **#THISISWINNING**

Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Call or text 1-800-522-4700
for Problem Gambling Helpline.

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