



# TENNESSEE EDUCATION LOTTERY QUICK FACTS

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## Tennessee Education Lottery

One Century Place  
26 Century Boulevard  
Nashville, TN 37214  
(615) 324-6500

UPDATED: July, 2017

## CREATING A LOTTERY

- **Nov. 5, 2002:** Tennessee voters approved a statewide referendum to permit a lottery.
- **April/May 2003:** The Senate and House passed legislation authorizing the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation to operate games and generate funds for specific education programs in the state.
- **July 1, 2003:** Governor Phil Bredesen appointed a 7-member Board of Directors to govern the Corporation.
- **Sept. 22, 2003:** The Board hired Rebecca Paul (now Rebecca Hargrove) as the first President and CEO.
- **Jan. 20, 2004:** The Tennessee Lottery began selling tickets.

## SALES/GAMES

- First-day ticket sales, which began three weeks earlier than expected, totaled \$10.8 million.
- The Lottery has increased ticket sales—now at **more than \$16.6 billion**—for 12 consecutive fiscal years.
- The Lottery offers a huge variety of games, including up to 45 instant-ticket games and seven drawing-style games. New instant-ticket games are introduced each month.
- Lottery tickets are available at more than 5,000 retailer locations in Tennessee. These retailers have earned **more than \$1 billion** in commissions since ticket sales began.
- Players have additional chances to win at the VIP Players Suite®. This popular player-affinity program allows players to enter eligible tickets into drawings into the Play It Again! and **VIP Rewards®** Drawings for opportunities to win cash and prizes.
- The Lottery reminds players to have fun, but to play responsibly.

## WHERE THE MONEY GOES

- The TEL has raised **more than \$4 billion** for education programs since inception.
- Lottery-funded programs include a variety of scholarships and awards, after-school programs, and **Tennessee Promise**, which funds tuition at community colleges and other two-year institutions.
- Since the fall of 2004, more than **1 million** grants and scholarships to in-state institutions have been awarded to Tennessee students.
- Out of every dollar spent on tickets, the largest portion is used to pay prizes. Other portions are used to pay retailer commissions, fund the education programs described above and for Lottery operations.

## WINNERS

- The Lottery has paid players more than **\$11.5 billion** in prizes, averaging over \$2.6 million each day.
- The Lottery's largest winner was a Munford player who won **\$528.8 million** after sharing the **world record-breaking Powerball jackpot of \$1.6 billion** with a player in California and a player in Florida.
- Other Powerball jackpot winners in Tennessee:
  - \$420.9 million, Lafayette, November 2016
  - \$259.8 million, Knoxville, June 2014
  - \$144.1 million, Antioch, November 2015
  - \$50 million, Knox County, March 2015
  - \$25.5 million, South Pittsburgh, March 2005
- Since inception, the Lottery has sold more than 200 winning tickets of \$1 million or more.

## MORE ABOUT THE TENNESSEE LOTTERY

- The Tennessee Lottery is headquartered in Nashville, with additional District Offices in Knoxville, Chattanooga and Memphis.
- The Lottery has been recognized for its successful efforts to promote diversity within its workforce and vendor procurement practices, and has exceeded all diversity goals each year since inception. The Nashville chapter of the American Advertising Federation awarded the TEL with a 2014 "*Mosaic Award*," which celebrates diversity in communications and corporate strategy.
- Tennessee Lottery Player Service Representatives are available M-F, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm CT. Just check which number applies to your calling area:

(615) area, dial 615-254-4946      (865) area dial 512-4946

(901) area, dial 466-4946      (423) area dial 939-7529

All other areas in Tennessee: 877-786-7529. Outside Tennessee dial 615-254-4946.

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