



You won! Now what?

*A Guide for
Pennsylvania Lottery
Winners*



Benefits Older Pennsylvanians.
Every Day.

palottery.com

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First: Sign Your Ticket

Always sign the back of your ticket and include your name, address and phone number. Keep it in a safe place until you claim your prize.

Winning Tip:



Do not post or share a photo of your winning ticket! Claim your prize first and then share your story.

Claim Your Prize

Prizes of over \$2,500 can be claimed for payment at Lottery District Offices, including Headquarters in Middletown.

Mail a completed Claim Form along with the signed ticket to the address on the form found on palottery.com or visit a Lottery office to claim your prize. Prizes of \$2,500 or less may be claimed at a Pennsylvania Lottery retailer. If a prize is more than \$600, you must complete a Claim Form.

If a retailer won't pay a prize, try claiming it at a different PA Lottery retailer or mail your ticket to: **PA Lottery, 1200 Fulling Mill Road, Suite 1, Middletown, PA 17057.** Before mailing it, sign your winning ticket and make a copy of it (front and back) for your records.

Powerball® and Mega Millions® jackpot prizes, an annuity top or second-level prize for Cash4Life® or a Scratch-Off annuity prize must be claimed in-person at Lottery Headquarters.

Winning Tip:



For information about how to file your claim, call 1-800-692-7481.

When will my check arrive?

Your check will arrive between four and six weeks. The Pennsylvania Treasury Department will send checks via the United States Postal Service (USPS).

When you play or buy online through PA iLottery, most prizes are automatically paid to your iLottery account and you can request a withdrawal using a variety of methods such as ACH.

Are There Taxes?

Your winnings are subject to the Commonwealth's 3.07 percent state personal income tax and federal taxes, 24 percent. The Pennsylvania Lottery automatically withholds taxes for winnings more than \$5,000.

Winners will receive a W-2G tax form in the mail for all prizes won that are over \$600, which will show if any taxes are withheld. Winners may use the form when filing taxes.

If you win online, download and complete a W-2G form available in your account. Keep copies of all forms for your tax records.

Winners with questions about their individual tax liability should consult a qualified tax professional prior to filing their tax return.

Lost your W-2G form?

Visit www.palottery.com/2019W2

Avoiding Scams

Lottery scams are often run by individuals living outside of the U.S.

Report any suspicious calls from potential scammers to the PA Lottery Security Division 717-702-8026.

Winning Tip:



Don't fall for it! An example of a common scam is when the individual tells you to "pre-pay" taxes or fees in order to claim your prize.

Prizes & Expiration Dates

Claim prizes promptly so that they don't expire!

- Scratch-Off prizes expire one year from the game's end-sale date listed at palottery.com
- Draw game prizes (including Keno and Xpress Sports) expire one year from the drawing date
- Fast Play game prizes expire one year from the purchase date

Winning Tip:



Use the Ticket Checker featured on the PA Lottery's Official App to learn if you are a winner! Claim your prize ASAP!

Playing as a Group



It's fun to play and win together! Individual prize checks greater than or equal to \$2,501 may be issued for group members, but only for prizes worth **\$50,000 or more**. If you want an individual check, specify that on the Claim Form. Each member must complete additional paperwork.

Winning Tip:



Use our Pool Play calculator on palottery.com to find out how much each player could win.

Share Your Story



When you share your winning experience, you receive an oversized ceremonial prize check. The Lottery may invite you to participate in a public celebration, in which we invite media. Winner's stories may appear on palottery.com or our social media channels, and sometimes in press releases.

"Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @PALottery. Use the hashtag #palottery to share your messages with us.

Winning Tip:



Inspire other players today! To share your story, call 1-800-692-7481.

Annuity vs. Cash

For Multi-State Lottery Association (MUSL) games, which include Powerball® and Mega Millions®, you have 60 days from the date a claim is filed to decide whether you would like the annuity or cash payout option. The Lottery cannot advise you on financial matters. Consult an attorney or financial expert to decide which option is best for you.

The cash option is a one-time, lump-sum payment that includes your share of all the money available in the top prize or jackpot prize pool, after taxes and deductions are withheld.

The annuity option provides an initial payment followed by a series of yearly payments over time.

Please Play Responsibly

As part of its social responsibility mission, the Pennsylvania Lottery funds and actively promotes the Pennsylvania Compulsive Gambling Helpline. The toll-free number 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537), along with messages encouraging responsible play, appear on tickets, advertising and the nightly televised drawing show.

The Lottery also reminds players that they must be 18 or older and that Lottery games should never be given to children. More resources, including a 24-hour chat service, are also available at **pacouncil.com**, operated by the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania.

Online players who may feel they need to take a break from iLottery games may self-exclude. Individuals who wish to self-exclude must complete the process on their own for legal purposes. Player Support cannot complete this process for players, but can walk players through the following steps:

• Login to **PAiLottery.com**

• Select: My Account

Responsible Gaming

Self Exclusion

Contact Us

Toll Free: (800) 692-7481

PA Lottery Headquarters
1200 Fulling Mill Road, Suite 1
Middletown, PA. 17057

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Players must be 18 or older. Please play responsibly.
Problem Gambling Helpline: 1-800-GAMBLER.**