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Jackpots to Become More Mega When Game Changes

Aug. 18, 2017

LITTLE ROCK – Changes are coming this October to Mega Millions®, the draw game beloved nationally, but especially in Arkansas, who saw a \$177 million Mega Millions® winner come forth in April.

Key benefits for players with the forthcoming changes include better odds at winning \$1 million, higher average jackpots, and faster-growing jackpots with \$5 million minimum rolls. (*See accompanying chart.*) The biggest change may be that Mega Millions® jackpots will start at \$40 million, more than double the current \$15 million.

The cost of a Mega Millions® ticket will increase from \$1 to \$2 per play, but the Megaplier® cost will remain at an additional \$1 per play. For players who like to play several draws in advance, a gradual stepdown of the availability of future draws in the current version of Mega Millions® begins Aug. 18. From that point on, the number of future draws available for the present game will decrease with each draw – all leading to the new game change on Saturday, Oct. 28. The first drawing for the new modified game will be Tuesday, Oct. 31.

This is the first price adjustment in the Mega Millions® game since Arkansas started selling it in 2010.

“With Mega Millions® going to \$40 million starting jackpots, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery will be offering huge jackpots – at least \$40 million – four nights a week,” said Lottery Director Bishop Woosley.

Mega Millions® drawings are held every Tuesday and Friday. The game is currently offered in 44 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington D.C.

“In Arkansas a higher percentage of profits from draw games like Mega Millions® goes to scholarships, which means more financial help for Arkansas students,” Woosley said.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions and other expenses in the state. Since the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery began in 2009, the Lottery has provided nearly \$700 million for more than 235,000 scholarships to Arkansas students to 51 colleges, universities and technical schools in the state. It has provided nearly \$2.3 billion in prizes to players, and more than \$197 million in commissions to Lottery retailers.

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 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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