

## Illinois Lottery: Claim Centers Will Be Closed Until Further Notice, Mail-in Claims Suggested

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CHICAGO - The Illinois Lottery announced that beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all of its claim centers will be closed to the public until further notice. These closures are in response to recent public health concerns due to COVID-19.

"As we continue to learn more about COVID-19, taking a more aggressive stance on helping to ensure the safety of our players and employees is prudent," said Harold Mays, Acting Director. "We hope our players are patient and understanding as we work through this unprecedented challenge together," said Mays.

Winning players are encouraged to mail in their claims. If your claim is \$600 or less, you can still visit your local Lottery retailer. Please visit the Lottery's website, http://www.IllinoisLottery.com/winning, to download a claim form and for more information on how to submit a claim through the mail. Winning tickets can also be

claimed for up to 12 months after purchase. The Lottery will continue to post the most up-to-date information regarding its claim centers on its website at www.IllinoisLottery.com.

The Illinois Lottery will continue to work closely with the Governor's Office and the Illinois Department of Public Health to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will respond accordingly as new developments come to light. Information on COVID-19 is available from the Illinois Department of Public Health at www.dph.illinois.gov.

## **About the Illinois Lottery:**

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$21 billion (since 1985) to the state's Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like homelessness prevention, Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics, police memorials and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.