

**Chapter 315-38 WAC**  
**MEGA MILLIONS**

Last Update: 7/25/19

**WAC**

315-38-010	General description.
315-38-020	Definitions.
315-38-030	Ticket sales.
315-38-040	Ticket price.
315-38-050	Play characteristics and restrictions.
315-38-060	Purchaser responsibility.
315-38-070	Time, place and manner of conducting drawing.
315-38-080	Prize structure and odds.
315-38-090	Jackpot prize payments.
315-38-100	Second through ninth level prizes.
315-38-110	Single prize.
315-38-120	Parimutuel prize calculation.
315-38-130	Annuitized jackpot prize calculation.
315-38-140	Promotional prizes.
315-38-150	Ticket responsibility.
315-38-160	Ticket validation requirements.
315-38-170	Validations.
315-38-180	Procedures for claiming and payment of prizes.
315-38-190	Unclaimed prize money.
315-38-200	Governing law.

**WAC 315-38-010 General description.** Mega Millions is a game conducted by the Washington state lottery, pursuant to chapter 67.70 RCW and Title 315 WAC and pursuant to the requirements of the multi-state agreement, Mega Millions official game rules, Mega Millions finance and operation procedures and Mega Millions line drawing procedures, all of which are incorporated by this rule pursuant to WAC 315-30-010. The Mega Millions game awards prizes to ticket holders matching specified combinations of numbers randomly selected in regularly scheduled drawings. Chapter 315-38 WAC applies only to Mega Millions tickets purchased and redeemed in Washington state. Players who purchase Mega Millions tickets in other party lottery states must comply with the rules of the party lottery state in which the ticket was purchased.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 14-06-048, § 315-38-010, filed 2/26/14, effective 3/29/14. Statutory Authority: Chapter 67.70 RCW. WSR 05-11-050, § 315-38-010, filed 5/13/05, effective 6/13/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-010, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-020 Definitions.** Words and terms set forth below, when used herein, shall have the following meaning unless otherwise indicated:

(1) Annual/annuitized/annuity option: The manner in which the Mega Millions jackpot prize may be paid in thirty consecutive graduated annual installments. Payments shall escalate by a factor of five percent annually, and annual payments shall be rounded to the nearest even \$1,000 increment to facilitate the purchase of securities.

(2) Authorized claim center: Any Mega Millions agent or retailer, or party lottery office, in the state where the winning official Mega Millions ticket was purchased.

(3) Cash option: The manner in which the Mega Millions jackpot prize may be paid in a single payment.

(4) Claimant: Any person or entity submitting a claim form within the required time period to collect a prize for an official Mega Millions ticket. A claimant may be the purchaser, the person or entity

named on a signed official Mega Millions ticket, the bearer of an unsigned official Mega Millions ticket, or any other person or entity who may seek entitlement to a Mega Millions prize payment in accordance with the Mega Millions rules and party lottery governing laws, policies and rules. No claimant may assert rights different from the rights acquired by the original purchaser at the time of purchase.

(5) Director(s): The chief officers of the party lotteries or any other persons to whom the directors' authority is lawfully delegated.

(6) Multistate agreement: The amended and restated multistate agreement regarding the Mega Millions game, or any subsequent amended agreement, signed by the party lotteries and including the Mega Millions official game rules, finance and operations procedures for Mega Millions, and online drawing procedures for Mega Millions.

(7) Official Mega Millions ticket: A game ticket, produced on official paper stock by a Mega Millions agent or retailer in an authorized manner, bearing player or computer selected numbers, game name, drawing date, amount of wager, and validation data.

(8) Party lottery or lotteries: One or more of the state lotteries authorized to become a member of Mega Millions.

(9) Parimutuel: Total amount of sales allocated to pay prize claimants at the designated prize level, divided among the number of winning official Mega Millions tickets at the designated prize level.

(10) Prize fund: That portion of Mega Millions gross sales set aside for the payment of prizes. The prize fund for any drawing is expected to be fifty percent of sales, but may be higher or lower based upon the number of winners at each set prize level, as well as the funding required to meet the advertised jackpot.

(11) Purchaser(s): Player(s) of Mega Millions who purchase tickets in accordance with Mega Millions rules and party lottery governing laws, policies, and rules.

(12) Quick-pick, auto-pick or easy pick: A player option in which Mega Millions number selections are determined at random by computer software.

(13) Total prize liability: The liability of the participating states in any Mega Millions game prize, or any Mega Millions add-on game prize, will be in accordance with the finance and operations procedures for Mega Millions.

(14) Subscription/season ticket: An extended, multidraw purchase option, which may be offered in Washington state at the discretion of the director of the Washington state lottery, wherein the same set(s) of numbers may be played for a specified number of consecutive drawings (for example, 26, 52 or 104), effective on a future date. Subscription/season tickets are distinguished from multidraw tickets which are effective for specified future drawings and are sold at the retailer level.

(15) Mega Millions agent, sales agent or retailer: A location in one of the states which are party lotteries and which is licensed or contracted and equipped by its respective state lottery to sell official Mega Millions tickets.

(16) Mega Millions panel or play area: That area of an official Mega Millions ticket identified by an alpha character and containing one field of five one-digit or two-digit player or computer selected numbers, and a second field of one one-digit or two-digit player or computer selected number.

(17) Mega Millions play/bet slip: A computer-readable form, printed and issued by each party lottery, used in purchasing an official Mega Millions ticket, with each play area consisting of two fields.

One field contains seventy areas/spaces numbered one through seventy; and one field contains twenty-five areas/spaces numbered one through twenty-five.

(18) Mega Millions winning numbers - Five one or two digit numbers from one through seventy, and one or two digit number from one to twenty-five, randomly selected at each Mega Millions drawing, which shall be used to determine winning Mega Millions plays contained on official Mega Millions tickets.

(19) Add-on game: A game that may provide prize amounts in addition to the Mega Millions prizes, other than the Mega Millions jackpot prize.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-020, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 67.70 RCW. WSR 05-11-050, § 315-38-020, filed 5/13/05, effective 6/13/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-020, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-030 Ticket sales.** (1) The sale of official Mega Millions tickets may be conducted only by such locations as the directors shall contract with and/or license pursuant to the governing laws, policies, and rules of the party lotteries and the Mega Millions rules.

(2) The director of the Washington state lottery shall have the discretion to take steps to improve the efficiency of ticket sales when the Mega Millions jackpot prize reaches what he or she considers a high enough level to warrant action. Steps include, but are not limited to, allowing retailers to restrict ticket purchases to quick pick only.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-030, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-040 Ticket price.** (1) Official Mega Millions tickets may be purchased for two dollars per play, or multiples thereof, at the discretion of the purchaser, in accordance with the number of game panels and inclusive drawings. The purchaser receives one play for every two dollars wagered in Mega Millions.

(2) Subject to the laws and regulations governing each party lottery, the directors may collectively authorize the sale of official Mega Millions tickets at a discount for promotional purposes.

(3) Individual directors may authorize sale of official Mega Millions tickets at a discount for promotional purposes within their respective jurisdictions, provided that such discounted sales shall be reported to the party lotteries at full gross sales value.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-040, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-040, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-050 Play characteristics and restrictions.** (1) Official Mega Millions tickets may only be sold to persons eighteen years of age or older, providing such persons are not prohibited from play-

ing Mega Millions in a party lottery state by the governing law, policies or rules of that party lottery, or any contract executed by that party lottery.

(2) Official Mega Millions tickets may not be purchased in any other party lottery state by any party lottery board member or commissioner; or any officer or employee; or any spouse, child, brother, sister or parent residing as a member of the same household in the principal place of residence of any such person.

(3) Under no circumstances will a claim be paid without an official Mega Millions ticket matching all game play, serial number, and other validation data residing in the selling party lottery's online gaming system computer, and such ticket shall be the only valid proof of the wager placed and the only valid receipt for claiming or redeeming any prize.

(4) Official Mega Millions tickets cannot be canceled.

(5) Purchasers may submit a manually completed Mega Millions play slip to a Mega Millions agent or retailer to have issued an official Mega Millions ticket. Mega Millions play slips shall be available at no cost to the purchaser and shall have no pecuniary or prize value, and shall not constitute evidence of purchase or number selections. The use of mechanical, electronic, computer generated or any other nonmanual method of marking play slips is prohibited.

(6) Purchasers may orally convey their selections to a Mega Millions agent or retailer to have issued an official Mega Millions ticket. Such selections shall be manually entered into the computer terminal by the Mega Millions agent or retailer.

(7) If player operated sales terminals or self-service terminals are available, purchasers may use such terminals for the purchase of official Mega Millions tickets.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-050, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-050, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-060 Purchaser responsibility.** It shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser to verify the accuracy and condition of the data printed on the official Mega Millions ticket at the time of purchase.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-060, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-070 Time, place and manner of conducting drawing.**

(1) Mega Millions drawings shall be conducted at the studios of WSB-TV, Atlanta, Georgia at 11:00 p.m. eastern time (8:00 p.m. Pacific time). Mega Millions drawings shall be conducted on both Tuesday and Friday at the designated time. However, the day, time or location of Mega Millions drawings may be modified as determined by the directors and publicly announced by the party lotteries, and/or as stated in the online drawing procedures for Mega Millions.

(2) The objective of Mega Millions drawings shall be to select at random, with the aid of drawing equipment, Mega Millions winning numbers, pursuant to the controls and methods defined by the party lotteries.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-070, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-080 Prize structure and odds.** Winning number matches shall win prizes as set forth below, based on an estimated anticipated prize fund of fifty percent of gross sales and estimated percents of prize fund, as defined in WAC 315-38-020(10) and the Mega Millions multistate agreement:

PRIZE LEVEL	MATCH (Field 1 + Field 2)	ODDS	PRIZE
Jackpot	5 numbers + mega ball	1 in 302,575,350	Jackpot
Second	5 numbers	1 in 12,607,306	\$1,000,000
Third	4 numbers + mega ball	1 in 931,001	\$10,000
Fourth	4 numbers	1 in 38,792	\$500
Fifth	3 numbers + mega ball	1 in 14,547	\$200
Sixth	3 numbers	1 in 606	\$10
Seventh	2 numbers + mega ball	1 in 693	\$10
Eighth	1 number + mega ball	1 in 89	\$4
Ninth	Mega ball only	1 in 37	\$2

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-080, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 67.70 RCW. WSR 05-11-050, § 315-38-080, filed 5/13/05, effective 6/13/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-080, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-090 Jackpot prize payments.** (1) Prior to each drawing, the directors shall determine the estimated annuitized jackpot prize amount to be advertised. The advertised jackpot prize amount shall be the basis for determining the amount to be awarded for each Mega Millions panel matching all five of the five Mega Millions winning numbers drawn for Field 1 and the one Mega Millions winning number drawn for Field 2. No annuitized jackpot prize, when there is only one jackpot prize winning ticket, shall be less than \$12 million.

(2) If, in any Mega Millions drawing, there are no Mega Millions panels that qualify for the jackpot prize category, the portion of the prize fund allocated to such jackpot prize category shall remain in the jackpot prize category and be added to the amount allocated for the jackpot prize category in the next consecutive Mega Millions drawing.

(3) If the annuitized jackpot prize divided by the number of Mega Millions panels matching all five of the five Mega Millions winning numbers for Field 1 and the one Mega Millions winning number for Field 2, is equal to or greater than \$1,000,000, the jackpot prize(s) will be paid under the annuity option unless a cash option was selected by the winner(s), as follows:

(a) **Cash option:** When a player claims a jackpot prize or a share of a jackpot prize, the player may elect to be paid a one-time single cash option payment as defined by WAC 315-38-020(3), provided:

(i) The player must elect this cash option within sixty days of the presentation of his or her winning ticket, by following the procedure required by the lottery;

(ii) If the federal tax code is interpreted by federal authorities to require that this cash option be exercised within sixty days of the drawing for the prize, then (a)(i) of this subsection will not apply and instead, the player must elect this cash option within sixty days of the date of the drawing for the prize;

(iii) The player's choice of payment method as designated by signing the appropriate lottery form is final and may not be changed by the player at a later date;

(iv) Cash option jackpot prizes shall be paid in a single payment in accordance with the internal validation procedures and settlement procedures pursuant to the multistate agreement and the Washington state lottery. At the director's discretion, an initial payment of a portion of the cash option prize may be paid to the winner at the time the prize is claimed.

(b) **Annuity:** A player who chooses not to elect the cash option or who does not elect the cash option within the sixty-day limit will be paid his or her prize in thirty graduated annual installment payments. The initial payment shall be paid in accordance with the internal validation procedures and settlement procedures established by the multistate agreement and the Washington state lottery. The subsequent twenty-nine payments shall be paid annually to coincide with the month of the federal auction date at which the bonds were purchased. All such payments shall be made within seven days of the anniversary of the actual auction date. This date of payment of the subsequent payments is subject to the discretion of the director of the Washington state lottery, acting in the best interest of the lottery.

(4) After the player has made his or her choice of payment method, the lottery will validate the claim, including a debt check pursuant to WAC 315-06-125, and pay the prize as appropriate.

(5) In the event multiple Mega Millions panels match all five of the five Mega Millions winning numbers for Field 1 and the one Mega Millions winning number for Field 2, and the annuitized Mega Millions jackpot prize divided by the number of winning game panels is less than \$1,000,000, each Mega Millions jackpot prize winner shall be paid an amount equal to the "cash equivalent grand/jackpot prize," as defined by the multistate agreement, divided equally by the number of jackpot prize winners. Each such jackpot prize winner will be paid in a single cash payment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-090, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19; WSR 18-17-086, § 315-38-090, filed 8/14/18, effective 9/14/18. Statutory Authority: Chapter 67.70 RCW. WSR 05-11-050, § 315-38-090, filed 5/13/05, effective 6/13/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-090, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-100 Second through ninth level prizes.** (1) Each Mega Millions second through ninth prize shall be paid in one payment.

(2) Should total prize liability, exclusive of jackpot prize rollover from previous drawings, exceed three hundred percent of draw

sales or fifty percent of draw sales plus \$50,000,000, whichever is less, (both hereinafter referred to as the "liability cap"), the second and third prizes shall be paid on a parimutuel rather than fixed prize basis, provided, however, that in no event shall the parimutuel prize be greater than the set prize. The amount to be used for the allocation of such parimutuel prizes shall be the liability cap less the amount paid for the jackpot prize and prize levels four through nine. The California state lottery's sales and prizes are excluded for purposes of the liability cap calculation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040 (1), (3). WSR 19-16-015, § 315-38-100, filed 7/25/19, effective 8/25/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 67.70 RCW. WSR 05-11-050, § 315-38-100, filed 5/13/05, effective 6/13/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-100, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-110 Single prize.** In a single drawing, a claimant may win in only one prize category per single Mega Millions panel in connection with Mega Millions winning numbers and shall be entitled only to the highest prize.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-110, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-120 Parimutuel prize calculation.** For purpose of prize calculation with respect to any Mega Millions parimutuel prize, the calculation shall be rounded down so that prizes shall be paid in multiples of one dollar.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-120, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-130 Annuitized jackpot prize calculation.** The jackpot prize shall be set in accordance with the rules and procedures established by the multistate agreement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-130, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-140 Promotional prizes.** The number of prize categories and the allocation of the prize fund among the prize categories may be changed at the discretion of the directors, for promotional purposes. Such change shall be announced by public notice.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-140, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-150 Ticket responsibility.** (1) A winning official Mega Millions ticket is a bearer instrument and is deemed to be owned by the person or entity named on the ticket or, in the case of a ticket not completed with name, the ticket is deemed to be owned by the claimant.

(2) The Washington state lottery shall not be responsible for lost or stolen official Mega Millions tickets, unless otherwise provided in the laws and regulations governing the lottery.

(3) The purchaser of an official Mega Millions ticket has the sole responsibility for verifying the accuracy and condition of the data printed on the ticket at the time of purchase.

(4) The Washington state lottery shall not be responsible to the claimant for official Mega Millions tickets redeemed in error by a Mega Millions agent or retailer.

(5) Winners are determined by the numbers drawn and not the numbers reported. The party lotteries shall not be responsible for Mega Millions winning numbers reported in error.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-150, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-160 Ticket validation requirements.** In order to be deemed a valid, winning, official Mega Millions ticket, all of the following conditions must be met:

(1) The ticket must meet the requirements of WAC 315-30-050 and the requirements of the multistate agreement.

(2) In submitting an official Mega Millions ticket for validation, the claimant agrees to abide by applicable laws, all rules and regulations, instructions, conditions, and final decision of the director of the Washington state lottery, or other party lottery, which issued the ticket.

(3) To be a valid ticket, the ticket data must have been recorded on the central computer system prior to the drawing and the ticket data must match this computer record in every respect. In the event of a contradiction between information as printed on the ticket and as accepted by the party lottery computer, the wager accepted by the party lottery computer shall be the valid wager.

(4) There must not be any other breach of rules in relation to the ticket which, in the opinion of the director of the party lottery which issued the ticket, justifies disqualification.

(5) The ticket must be submitted to the party lottery which issued it, and only that party lottery which issued the ticket may pay the prize.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-160, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-170 Validations.** An official Mega Millions ticket submitted for validation that fails any of the preceding validation conditions shall be considered void, subject to the following determinations:

(1) In all cases of doubt, the determination of the director of the party lottery which sold the official Mega Millions ticket shall be final and binding; however, the director may, at his/her option, replace an invalid ticket with an official Mega Millions ticket of equivalent sales price;

(2) In the event a defective ticket is purchased or in the event the director determines to adjust an error, the sole and exclusive remedy shall be the replacement of such defective or erroneous ticket(s) with an official Mega Millions ticket of equivalent sales price;

(3) In the event an official Mega Millions ticket is not paid by the Washington state lottery and a dispute occurs as to whether the ticket is a winning ticket, the Washington state lottery may, at its option, replace the ticket as provided in WAC 315-06-120(17).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-170, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-180 Procedures for claiming and payment of prizes.**

(1) Prizes shall be redeemed or claimed only in the state where the official Mega Millions ticket was purchased and only through Mega Millions agents or retailers or other authorized claim centers, effective upon determination of prize payouts.

(2) A Mega Millions prize claimed in Washington state must be claimed no later than one hundred eighty days after the Mega Millions drawing for which the ticket was purchased. Pursuant to WAC 315-02-230 a "claim" means the actual physical receipt of a ticket and claim form if necessary under these rules, by a location authorized to pay the prize sought. Placement of the ticket, and claim form, if necessary, in the United States mail or another mail service does not constitute receipt.

(3) Claimants of a winning official Mega Millions ticket must comply with the prize claim requirements of the party lottery which issued the winning ticket.

(4) In the event that a single official Mega Millions ticket contains two or more winning game panels, the cumulative prize amount shall be claimed or redeemed in accordance with the specified prize payment limits for the party lottery which issued the winning ticket.

(5) Federal withholding taxes, and any other applicable taxes, shall be withheld from Mega Millions prizes in such amounts as may be required by law.

(6) Mega Millions prizes shall not be paid to any persons prohibited from playing Mega Millions in a particular party lottery state by Mega Millions rules or by the governing law or rules of that party lottery or any contract executed by that party lottery.

(7) The name and city or other location of the winner of a jackpot prize, or second prize, will be disclosed in a news conference or in a news release and the winner may be requested to participate in a news conference.

(8) If the winner claims a Mega Millions jackpot or second prize as a legal entity pursuant to WAC 315-06-120, the entity shall provide the name of a natural person who is a principal of the legal entity. This natural person shall be available for appearance at any news conference regarding the prize and shall be featured in any lottery's news releases.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-180, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-190 Unclaimed prize money.** For winning official Mega Millions tickets for which no claim or redemption is made within the specified claim period for each respective party lottery, the corresponding prize moneys shall be returned to the other party lotteries in accordance with procedures for the reconciliation of prize liabilities.

ty pursuant to the multistate agreement and as may be agreed from time to time by the directors of the party lotteries.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-190, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]

**WAC 315-38-200 Governing law.** (1) In purchasing a ticket issued for Mega Millions, the purchaser agrees to comply with and be bound by all applicable statutes, administrative rules and regulations, and procedures of the individual state in which the ticket is issued, and by directives and determinations of the director of that state's lottery. The purchaser agrees, as its sole and exclusive remedy, that claims arising out of this ticket can be pursued only against the state of ticket purchase. Litigation, if any, shall only be maintained against the party lottery of the state of ticket purchase and within the state of ticket purchase.

(2) In the event of conflict between the multistate agreement and the statutes, rules or regulations of any party lottery, the party lottery's statutes, rules, and regulations shall control.

(3) All decisions made by the directors of the party lotteries, including the declaration of prizes and the payment thereof and the interpretation of Mega Millions rules, shall be final and binding on all purchasers and on every person making a claim in respect thereof.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 67.70.040. WSR 02-15-122, § 315-38-200, filed 7/19/02, effective 8/19/02.]