

THE **Lottery** LOWDOWN

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

MULTIPLIER  
JUST GOT **XTRA**



**NOW WITH MORE CHANCES TO WIN**

**HOTWINS®  
HEATS UP**

**NEW YEAR  
NEW INSTANTS**

**MULTIPLIER  
IS BACK**



**KICKING OFF THE 2026 NEW YEAR RIGHT** - with the newest game from the Illinois Lottery, HotWins! Its unique play-style with rapid drawings every 4 minutes has grabbed the attention of players from all over the state. Since the game launched in November, players are definitely feeling the heat, as the game has paid out over \$850K in the form of prizes\*! Winner awareness helps drive players to purchase lottery, so display your HotWins winners proudly!

Not only do players benefit from HotWins, but retailers can also! Remember - all retailers receive a 5% commission on all draw game sales and cashing/selling bonuses as well! Don't miss out and ask for the sale!

In an effort to build excitement and strengthen trial of the game, terminal promotions will begin in January and continue throughout the year. The first of many will be a Powerball® to HotWins promotion, encouraging cross-play amongst one of our largest player groups.

If you or your staff are unfamiliar with HotWins and want to learn more, please refer to the educational launch materials, which can be found [HERE](#). Virtual HotWins training sessions are also available to you. Training schedules will be sent via email. If you have additional questions, please reach out to your sales representative.

Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, we are optimistic of HotWins' success and eager for our customers to learn about the game and adapt their playing habits to include HotWins!

*\*Data from November 16, 2025, through December 11, 2025*

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# DATES YOU SHOULD KNOW

## JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				● NEW YEAR'S DAY 1	2	3
4	5	● INSTANT TICKETS LAUNCH DAY	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	● MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31				● TERMINAL PROMOTION BEGINS	

**January 6, 2026**

**Instant Tickets Launch Day. Activate tickets and start selling as soon as you receive them!**

**Holly Jolly 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Promotion \$500 Drawing**

**MONOPOLY<sup>®</sup> Pass GO 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Promotion \$200 Drawings**

**January 1, 2026**

**New Year's Day, State offices closed**

**January 13, 2026**

**Holly Jolly 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Promotion \$25,000 and \$250,000 Drawings**

**January 23, 2026**

**Powerball<sup>®</sup>/HotWins<sup>®</sup> Terminal Promotion begins**

**January 19, 2026**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day, State offices closed**

## FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	● INSTANT TICKETS LAUNCH DAY	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

**February 3, 2026**

**Instant Tickets Launch Day. Activate tickets and start selling as soon as you receive them!**

**MONOPOLY<sup>®</sup> Pass GO 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Promotion \$200 Drawings**

**February 12, 2026**

**Lincoln's Birthday, State offices closed**

**Be A Baller Sweepstakes begins**

**February 16, 2026**

**President's Day, State offices closed**



# MEET GILES SMITH ILLINOIS LOTTERY CHICAGO NORTH SIDE LOTTERY SALES REPRESENTATIVE

## HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WITH THE ILLINOIS LOTTERY? IN WHAT ROLES?

I started with the Illinois Lottery in September of 2017 at the Des Plaines Claim Center as an Office Associate... A.K.A a Claim Processor. In 2018, an opportunity arose to transition to to Lottery Sales Representative (LSR) position on the north side and near north suburbs of Chicago.

## WHAT DOES A DAY AT THE LOTTERY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

My day focuses on building and maintaining relationships with my retailers. Every day, I work my 30-day list (making sure retailers are seen every 30 days), which encompasses retailer education on new game activation, new initiatives launching, such as HotWins®, new retailer onboarding, and any tasks or opportunities that are assigned.

## WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I enjoy helping retailers, especially new ones, when they begin selling lottery tickets.

## HAVE YOU EVER MET A BIG WINNER? IF SO, WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST PRIZE FOR THE WINNER?

I have met several big winners because I started my career at the Claim Center. I believe the biggest prize that I did a claim for was \$1 million for a 70-year-old woman who said she rarely played and was surprised when she won.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ILLINOIS LOTTERY INSTANT TICKET/SCRATCH-OFF TICKET OVER THE YEARS?

It was the \$20 Frenzy ticket that was loaded with \$1,000 prizes. There were so many prizes that the claim center got so busy; there was a line down the hall for days when it launched.

## IF YOU COULD PLAY THE ILLINOIS LOTTERY AND WERE TO EVER WIN A BIG JACKPOT, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH THE WINNINGS?

Retire and not tell anybody, and save the majority of the money, establishing a blind trust that would pay for my relatives' education.

## FAVORITE FOOD?

A really good corned beef sandwich with lots of pickles.

## FAVORITE PIZZA TOPPING?

My favorite pizza toppings are bacon, yellow peppers, and ham.

## ANY ADVICE FOR RETAILERS? DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS OR TRICKS FOR RETAILERS TO MAXIMIZE SALES?

I believe it is my responsibility to help all succeed by explaining the importance of Illinois Lottery best practices. To me, best practices are keeping lottery money separate from regular operating income, managing inventory so you know what is going on, and helping them with marketing materials and promotional items like scratchers and plastic envelopes to help drive sales. Retailers can also double display top sellers to drive sales and always ask for a lottery sale when selling anything by asking, "Did you know the jackpot for *(insert name of game)* is  $\$(insert\ jackpot\ amount)?$ "

# MULTIPLIER JUST GOT XTRA

**LAUNCHING  
JANUARY 2026**

The Multiplier Instant Tickets are BACK and this time they're packed with XTRA chances to win!



**\$20 100X Xtra**

Game #7638  
Top prize: \$2,000,000

- Key number match play style
- 5 Xtra Numbers spots for 5 more chances to win!
- \$100, \$200, \$500, and \$1,000 instant win spots
- Win up to 34 times
- Over \$72.5M in total prizes
- 90.74% of prizes paid in retail



**\$10 50X Xtra**

Game #7637  
Top prize: \$1,000,000

- Key number match play style
- 5 Xtra Numbers spots for 5 more chances to win!
- \$50, \$100, and \$200 instant win spots
- Win up to 28 Times
- Over \$52M in total prizes
- 94.79% of prizes paid in retail



**\$1 5X Xtra**

Game #7634  
Top prize: \$20,000

- Key number match play style
- \$5 instant win spot
- Win up to 7 times
- 1 Xtra Number spot for another chance to win!
- Over \$5.2M in total prizes
- 97.69% of prizes paid in retail



**\$2 10X Xtra**

Game #7635  
Top prize: \$50,000

- Key number match play style
- 2 Xtra Numbers spots for 2 more chances to win!
- \$10 instant win spot
- Win up to 13 times
- Over \$9.2M in total prizes
- 96.93% of prizes paid in retail



**\$5 25X Xtra**

Game #7636  
Top prize: \$500,000

- Key number match play style
- 5 Xtra Numbers spots for 5 more chances to win!
- \$25 and \$100 instant win spots
- Win up to 22 Times
- Over \$29M in total prizes
- 93.01% of prizes paid in retail

# NEW GAMES

## LAUNCHING FEBRUARY 2026

This February, we're launching three Instant Tickets, where players will have a chance at over \$51.7 million in total prizes.



**\$10 | Gold Rush Supreme**  
#7646 TOP PRIZE: \$100,00

**Game Highlights:**

- Key number match play style
- Twenty \$100,000 top prizes
- Five bonus numbers
- Opportunity to win 5 and 10 times the prize
- Win \$100 instantly
- Win up to 25 times
- Over \$29M in total prizes
- 91.88% of prizes paid in retail



**\$5 | Electric Cash**  
#7645 TOP PRIZE: \$400,000

**Game Highlights:**

- Key number match play style
- Win up to 17 times
- Two Bonus Cash play spots
- Blue and black play symbols
- Over \$16.5M in total prizes
- 92.07% of prizes paid in retail



**\$3 | Diamond Slingo**  
#7644 TOP PRIZE: \$80,000

**Game Highlights:**

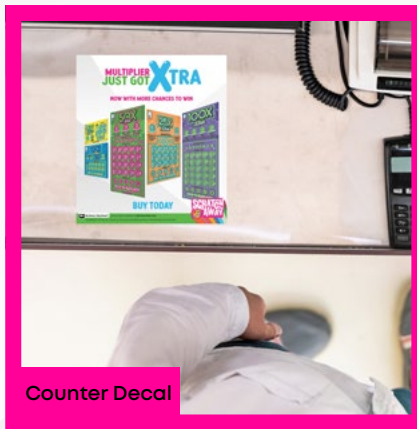
- Slingo® play style
- Three Ways to Win:
  - Complete lines in the Slingo Grid
  - Reveal gold coins
  - Collect diamonds
- Over \$6.2M in total prizes
- 95.9% of prizes paid in retail

# GET A LITTLE XTRA

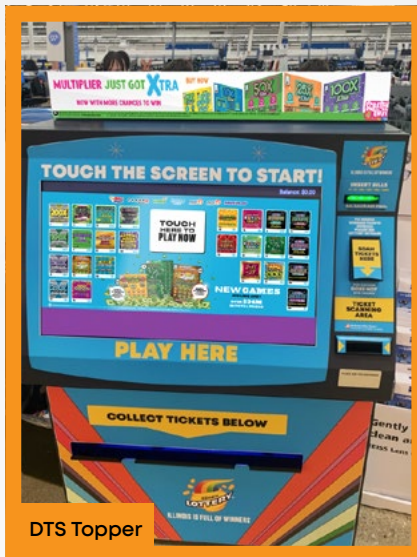
Multiplier is coming back, and it's bringing with it XTRA chances to win! These Instant Tickets are an Illinois favorite, so we're giving players more of what they love. We're highlighting these bright & bold tickets on a crisp background to really make them pop after the Holiday season.



Windmaster Insert



Counter Decal



DTS Topper



Win30 Dress Up



## HOTWINS® OVERVIEW

With drawings every 4 minutes\*, HotWins is all action, all the time. To play, players need to follow these 3 simple steps:

- 1** Player selects the numbers they want to play, which also determines their odds profile. Choosing **TWO NUMBERS** has the best odds to win!
- 2** Player selects their wager amount to determine the applicable prize pool.
- 3** Player selects the number of consecutive drawings they would like to play.

**NOTE:** The cost of the ticket is dependent on the number of consecutive draws and the wager amount the player chooses, NOT how many numbers they play.

## HOTWINS LAUNCH POS

Our POS items will feature a variety of materials, including counter decals, PPOS inserts and violators, vending machine lug-ons and violators, table tents, as well as windmaster inserts and DTS toppers to support the launch.

All retailers will receive a kit with HotWins launch educational materials that include: pack of consumer How-To-Play brochures, Retailer Quick Reference Guide, and Retailer FAQ. For details on upcoming HotWins training sessions, please check your email or ask your Lottery Sales Representative.



*Counter Decal*



*PPOS inserts and PPOS violator*



*Vending Violator*

\*Except during Night Mode hours.

# KEEP THESE CORE GAMES STOCKED TO MAXIMIZE SALES.

Customers love to play these Instant Tickets.

\$25

#7639  
\$1,000,000  
Crossword 50X



\$5

#7641  
\$100,000  
Crossword



\$10

#7640  
\$250,000  
Crossword



\$3

#7566  
King Crossword



\$1

#7617  
7-11-21®



\$5

#7588  
7X Bingo  
Multiplier





# NORWAY STORE & COFFEE BAR

## RETAILER STORIES FROM SHERIDAN, IL

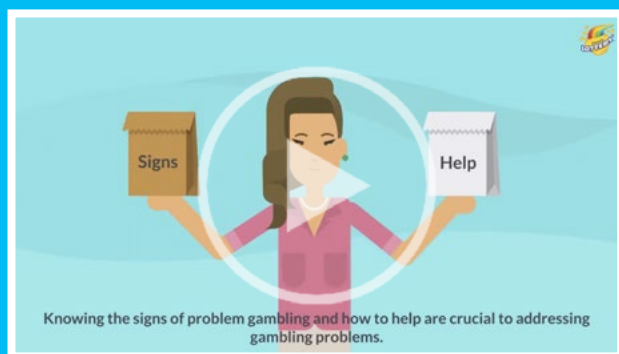
Being a small business, family is in our blood. We're people-focused, community-focused, and ever since the day we started selling lottery, we've had the privilege of meeting folks from all walks of life. Some are regulars, some come from across the globe, but they all tell us the same thing: they love how we know what they're after, how we keep up with new games, and how we make the experience enjoyable. Over the years, we've sold a handful of winners, and customers always joke, "If we win from you, we all win." They're not wrong; there's pride in learning you handed someone that lucky ticket..

The Illinois Lottery has allowed us to connect with people who love to try their shot at something big. We value every one of them, lottery winners or not. Even if someone doesn't hit that jackpot, we make sure they leave with a smile and feel welcome every time they walk in the door.

The Illinois Lottery has been good to us, and we want to share our story with everyone—past, present, and future—who has supported us. One day, we hope to sell that big, big winner. Until then, we'll keep doing what we do best: treating people right and making their day a little brighter.

# RESPONSIBLE GAMING TRAINING VIDEOS

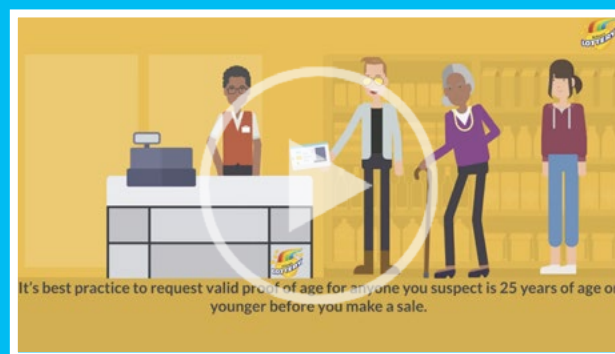
**Did You Know?** There are two retailer responsible gaming refresher training videos available to view at any time. The videos can be found in the Educational Materials section of the Illinois Lottery Retailer Resources webpage. When time permits, please visit the Retailer Resources webpage to learn more.



<https://youtu.be/ekMgtOHZCOK?si=CaQeHaoScXP0Z9kx>

## Problem Gambling

A brief refresher on how to recognize the signs of potential problem gambling and how to assist players who may be exhibiting such signs.



<https://youtu.be/9ycLrdHQSStI?si=jRnVHUCwFYrm3Nji>

## Age Requirements for Purchase

A brief refresher on ways to prevent anyone under the age of 18 from purchasing lottery tickets.

## ADA

# ACCESSIBLE SHELVES, COUNTERS, AND AISLES

Remember to keep shelves, counters, and aisles accessible for everyone. The Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) requires barrier-free access routes that provide enough space to allow customers using mobility devices to access merchandise. Please make sure that access routes are at least three feet wide, are free from clutter, and items of purpose or for sale are not in the way. If customers need assistance retrieving goods from high shelves, please make sure staff are available to help. At least one check-out aisle and counter should also be accessible. If an accessible check-out aisle and counter are not currently available, consider providing a folding shelf, clipboard, or lap board until a permanent change can be made.

If you have questions about complying with the ADA or would like to obtain general information about the ADA, please call: 800-514-0301 (voice); 800-514-0383 (TTY).

## A NEW YEAR IN LOTTERY!

Peak season is still in full swing across Illinois, and there's never been a better time to tighten up your lottery strategies! With assistance from the Tel-Sell team, you'll be able to boost your sales and ensure that your store operations continue to run smoothly. Retailers across the state know that Tel-Sell is the place to go for all of your lottery needs.

**Tel-Sell is just one easy phone call away at 844-806-8930 (Option #1). You'll quickly be redirected to our team of professionals who are eager to help you bring in the New Year!**

When the rush is on, retailers like you need support that is fast and accurate to your location.

Our Tel-Sell specialists are trained to help you meet compliance requirements, maintain inventory, and even create a game plan to keep you positioned for success.

Staying in line with the Illinois Lottery's most up-to-date promotions and materials doesn't need to be stressful. Tel-Sell can assist with best practices, as well as forward you to the right channels for acquiring signage and promotional material.

**Valuable insight into your store's metrics can help your inventory work with you, and not against you. Call now!**





**ILLINOIS IS FULL OF WINNERS®**

## **The Retail Hotline for Intralot is 1-844-806-8930**

**Your Hotline operator will be able to answer any questions you may have regarding:**

- Terminal functions & connectivity
- Installation schedule & queries
- Ordering Instant Tickets and supplies



**Be Smart, Play Smart®** Must be 18 or older to play. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537). For additional info or to exclude yourself, call 1-800-252-1775 or visit [illinoislottery.com](http://illinoislottery.com).

Game odds available at [IllinoisLottery.com](http://IllinoisLottery.com)