

Massachusetts' first VaxMillions Giveaway winners announced

Today, the Baker-Polito Administration, Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg and the Massachusetts State Lottery announced the winners for the first of five drawings for the Massachusetts VaxMillions Giveaway. As part of the giveaway, fully vaccinated residents ages 18 and older are eligible to enter to win one of five, \$1 million cash prizes. Residents between 12-17 years of age who are fully vaccinated may enter for the chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants.

The winner of this week's \$1 million prize is Darrell Washington of Weymouth. The winner for the \$300,000 college scholarship is Daniela Maldonado of Chelsea.

"Congratulations to Darrell Washington and Daniela Maldonado on winning the first-round drawing for the VaxMillions Giveaway," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Since we launched VaxMillions, over 2.3 million residents have signed up and hundreds of thousands of residents have gotten vaccinated, building on Massachusetts' nation-leading success in protecting our residents. Massachusetts continues to out-perform virtually every state on vaccinations, and we look forward to the remaining drawings for the VaxMillions campaign as another way to encourage more residents to get vaccinated, in addition to innovative approaches like pop-up clinics and in-home vaccinations."

"We are excited for these first-round winners of the VaxMillions Giveaway, and look forward to seeing the positive impact these prizes will have on their lives," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "We are grateful that over 4.5 million residents have gotten at least one dose of the COVID-19

vaccine, contributing to our status as a national leader in vaccinations. As the VaxMillion Giveaway continues, our Administration remains committed to using every tool available to us to get more residents vaccinated."

"Today's winners are a great reminder of why it's so important to get vaccinated. They won, but we all win too," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "And remember – they got a shot because they got the shots. So get the vax now and you could join us soon!"

"The Mass Lottery is proud to be a part of this important public health initiative and we extend our thanks to everyone who has registered thus far," said Michael Sweeney, Executive Director, Massachusetts State Lottery. "We congratulate the first winners and are hopeful that today's announcement will encourage additional state residents to get vaccinated."

"I am grateful to Darrell Washington and Daniela Maldonado, as well as the over 4.3 million Massachusetts residents that made the decision to protect themselves, their families and their communities by getting vaccinated," said Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services. "Vaccine acceptance in Massachusetts is among the highest in the nation, and we will continue to make the vaccine more accessible and convenient for every eligible resident across the Commonwealth."

"Leveraging innovative technology solutions has been a key component to the Baker-Polito Administration's public health response to the pandemic," said Secretary of Technology Services and Security Curtis M. Wood. "We are proud to partner with the Massachusetts State Lottery and public health officials on this important vaccination initiative and we congratulate today's winners."

The registration deadline for the next VaxMillions Giveaway is today, Thursday, July 29. Winners for that drawing will be

drawn on Monday, August 2 and announced on Thursday, August 5.