

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Riverside County

California · Riverside · FIPS 06065 · Population 2,429,487 ·
Crosodo Index #1931*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Riverside County, California — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Conditional

PETS

State baseline applies

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under California cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ California home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[California label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

CALIFORNIA: RIVERSIDE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1931* · FIPS 06065 · Riverside

Riverside County

Population 2,429,487 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Riverside University Health System – Environmental Health administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. No MEHKO opt-in confirmed for Riverside County as of research date — standard CFO program only. State preemption bars local zoning restrictions on CFOs.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city (California Gov. Code §51035 preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. Cities within Riverside County may require home occupation permits for other business aspects. No county-specific home occupation permit requirement identified for CFOs in unincorporated areas.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Class A: no routine inspection; complaint-based. Class B: annual inspection required for permit issuance/renewal.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Riverside University Health System – Environmental Health administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. No MEHKO opt-in confirmed for Riverside County as of research date — standard CFO program only. State preemption bars local zoning restrictions on CFOs.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	State baseline applies
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Class A: no routine inspection; complaint-based. Class B: annual inspection required for permit issuance/renewal.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city — California Gov. Code §51035 preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. Cities within Riverside County may require home occupation permits for other business aspects. No county-specific home occupation permit requirement identified for CFOs in unincorporated areas.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct/indirect sales within California only. State baseline applies. Operator may hire up to 1 full-time employee.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	1 full-time employee (state baseline)

Relevant county code

none county-specific found beyond state law

RESEARCH NOTES

Riverside County follows the standard California CFO framework. No MEHKO opt-in was confirmed based on available research. Riverside University Health System (ruhealth.org) is the local enforcement agency for both CFO registrations/permits and food safety. State law preempts local zoning from restricting CFOs.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.ruhealth.org>

<https://countyofriverside.us>

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

<https://www.ruhealth.org>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/california/riverside-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Riverside County	Orange County	San Bernardino County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct/indirect sales within California only. State baseline applies. Operator may hire up to 1 full-time employee.	Direct and indirect sales fulfilled in person, via mail, or third-party delivery within California only. Operator may hire up to 1 full-tim...	Direct/indirect sales within California only; state baseline applies. Up to 1 full-time equivalent employee (not family/household member) a...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city	Varies by city	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Riverside University Health System – Environmental Health administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. No MEHKO opt-in confir...	Orange County Environmental Health administers CFO Class A (direct sales, no inspection) and Class B (indirect/retail, annual inspection) r...	San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services (EHS) administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. All CFOs must first ob...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	Food may only be made and stored in the kitchen and an attached storage room used only for the home operation (state baseline).	State baseline applies
POPULATION	2,429,487	3,175,227	2,180,563

State context — California cottage food law

Riverside County's rules sit on top of California's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **California cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/california.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/california/>

Questions about Riverside County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/california/riverside-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Riverside County, California. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/california/riverside-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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