

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

San Francisco County

California · San Francisco · FIPS 06075 · Population 851,036 ·
Crosodo Index #2127*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Cottage Food Operations); Class A/B system

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

San Francisco 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?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Conditional

PETS

Standard sanitation; not specifically addressed

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: SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2127* · FIPS 06075 · San Francisco

San Francisco County

Population 851,036 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Cottage Food Operations);
Class A/B system · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (San Francisco is a consolidated city-county. CFO permits are administered by the SF Department of Public Health (SFDPH). Class A (direct sales, up to \$75,000/year); Class B (direct and indirect, up to \$150,000/year). Home occupation permit from SF Planning Department required as part of CFO application. Zoning preempted by state law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) for CFO purposes.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Standard sanitation; not specifically addressed

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (San Francisco Planning Department administers home occupation authorizations. State law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs, but a home occupation verification or accessory use determination may still be required as part of the SFDPH CFO application process. Contact SF Planning at (628) 652-7600.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Class B requires initial kitchen inspection. Class A is self-certified. Complaint-based thereafter.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — San Francisco is a consolidated city-county. CFO permits are administered by the SF Department of Public Health (SFDPH). Class A (direct sales, up to \$75,000/year); Class B (direct and indirect, up to \$150,000/year). Home occupation permit from SF Planning Department required as part of CFO application. Zoning preempted by state law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) for CFO purposes.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Standard sanitation; not specifically addressed
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal water (SF Public Utilities Commission) standard
HANDWASHING	Cottage Food Operator Training within 3 months; food handler certificate required
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per state approved foods list

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Class B requires initial kitchen inspection. Class A is self-certified. Complaint-based thereafter.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — San Francisco Planning Department administers home occupation authorizations. State law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs, but a home occupation verification or accessory use determination may still be required as part of the SFDPH CFO application process. Contact SF Planning at (628) 652-7600.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales only (in person, phone, internet; mail/third-party delivery permitted within California). Class B: direct plus indirect (restaurants, markets). \$75,000/\$150,000 annual caps. California only.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	1 non-family non-household full-time equivalent employee

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; Cal. Gov. Code §51035; SF Health Code Article 22B

RESEARCH NOTES

San Francisco is a consolidated city-county. MEHKO status: San Francisco County does NOT have an active MEHKO program as of mid-2025 (it was specifically cited in research as a large county without a MEHKO program). CFO (cottage food operations) is the applicable pathway. State law preempts local zoning restrictions for CFOs under Cal. Gov. Code §51035. SFDPH administers CFO permits. San Francisco has a Business Registration Certificate requirement for all businesses including home-based.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.sfdph.org>

<https://sfplanning.org>

<https://sf.gov>

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

<https://www.thefoodcorridor.com/blog/mehkos-2026-2/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	San Francisco County	San Mateo County	Contra Costa County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Standard sanitation; not specifically addressed	Standard sanitation; MEHKO requires food safety compliance	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales only (in person, phone, internet; mail/ third-party delivery permitted within California). Class B: direct plus indire...	CFO Class A: direct sales only (\$75,000 cap). CFO Class B: direct + indirect (\$150,000 cap). MEHKO: direct-to-consumer only (dine-in, take-...	MEHKO: meals for dine-in, take-out, and delivery; MEHKO may also serve as a commissary for permitted food carts. CFO: direct/ indirect sales...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Conditional	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	San Francisco is a consolidated city-county. CFO permits are administered by the SF Department of Public Health (SFPDH). Class A (direct sa...	Two pathways: (1) CFO Class A/ B under §113758; (2) MEHKO under §113825 — San Mateo County has permanently authorized MEHKOs (ordinance appr...	Contra Costa County adopted a MEHKO ordinance (Ordinance 2024-05) approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2024, effective July 1, ...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per state approved foods list	Standard per state approved foods list (CFO) or California Retail Food Code (MEHKO)	State baseline applies
POPULATION	851,036	754,250	1,162,648

State context — California cottage food law

San Francisco 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 San Francisco 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/san-francisco-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 San Francisco 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/san-francisco-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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