

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Mesa County

Colorado · Grand Junction · FIPS 08077 · Population 156,131 ·
Crosodo Index #2791*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
C.R.S. §25-4-1614	Great	Tiered (see notes)	MEDIUM	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

Mesa County, Colorado — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Colorado 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
- ☐ Colorado home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Colorado label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

COLORADO: MESA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2791* · FIPS 08077 · Grand Junction

Mesa County

Population 156,131 · State baseline: C.R.S. §25-4-1614 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Colorado requires free CDPHE registration. Food safety training required (various options: CSU Extension \$50, online food handler card ~\$10-15). Allowed non-refrigerated non-PHF foods: baked goods, pickled fruits/vegetables (pH 4.6 or below), jams, jellies, preserves, fruit butter, spices, teas, dehydrated produce, nuts, seeds, honey, flour, fermented foods, whole eggs (250-dozen/month limit). Annual cap is \$10,000 per product (not total revenue). Direct sales only (no indirect sales).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Mesa County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. Grand Junction has its own zoning rules. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (CDPHE may inspect upon complaint or as part of registration process.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Conditional — Colorado requires free CDPHE registration. Food safety training required (various options: CSU Extension \$50, online food handler card ~\$10-15). Allowed non-refrigerated non-PHF foods: baked goods, pickled fruits/vegetables (pH 4.6 or below), jams, jellies, preserves, fruit butter, spices, teas, dehydrated produce, nuts, seeds, honey, flour, fermented foods, whole eggs (250-dozen/month limit). Annual cap is \$10,000 per product (not total revenue). Direct sales only (no indirect sales).

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement under Colorado cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

Food safety training covers handwashing requirements.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-refrigerated non-PHF foods only. Proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — CDPHE may inspect upon complaint or as part of registration process.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Mesa County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. Grand Junction has its own zoning rules. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only: from home, at farmers markets, fairs, events, and via internet/mail order within Colorado only. No wholesale or indirect sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Mesa County Zoning Regulations; C.R.S. §25-4-1614

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Colorado per-product \$10,000 cap is unusual — multiple products can be sold. HB 26-1033 (Tamale Act, 2026) pending to expand rules starting January 2027. No Mesa County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.mesacounty.gov>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a_158_signed.pdf

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Mesa County	Garfield County	Delta County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	False
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.	Pets should be excluded from kitchen during production per good manufacturing practices; not explicitly codified in state statute but recom...	No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	False
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only: from home, at farmers markets, fairs, events, and via internet/mail order within Colorado only. No wholesale...	Direct sales only under state law. Pickup at home and delivery to consumer are permitted. No internet sales to out-of-state customers.	Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Possibly
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Possibly; City of Delta may require a city business license for operations within city limits; confirm with City of Delta
RESTRICTIONS	Colorado requires free CDPHE registration. Food safety training required (various options: CSU Extension \$50, online food handler card ~\$10...	Colorado state law allows home kitchen cottage food operations. Producer must register with CDPHE (free). Only non-potentially hazardous fo...	—
FOOD STORAGE	Non-refrigerated non-PHF foods only. Proper storage required.	Products must be stored in a manner that prevents contamination; no separate dedicated storage requirement at state level.	Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)
POPULATION	156,131	61,683	31,173

State context — Colorado cottage food law

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

STATUTE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

INDIRECT SALES

No — Products cannot be resold; producers must sell directly to consumers but may designate a representative to sell on their behalf. Sales through restaurants or retail stores are not permitted, though the health department may allow direct sales at those locations on a case-by-case basis.

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a_158_signed.pdf

State dept cottage food page: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

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

Questions about Mesa 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/colorado/mesa-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 Mesa County, Colorado. 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/colorado/mesa-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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