

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Alameda County, California?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies by city

SALES CAP

Tiered

CALIFORNIA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[California permits PDF](#)[California cottage food law page](#)[California Department of Public Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Alameda County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Alameda County, California. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Yes

LOCAL HEALTH

Conditional

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies by city

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

California cottage food is registered at the county. CDPH does not issue cottage-food permits. Class A registration and Class B permits are handled by the county (or city) environmental health department where you live. If this file only has a county homepage, call Environmental Health and ask for the cottage-food (CFO) page. Class A is registration. Class B is a permit.

Official source: [CDPH Cottage Food Operations](#)

CONTINUE ONLINE

California permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/california.pdf>

California cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/california>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/california/alameda-county>

Alameda County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/california/alameda-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

California registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: No. 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.

California permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/california.pdf](https://www.crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/california.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/california](https://www.crosodo.com/states/california)

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

Statute: [Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Yes. CFO operators must obtain approval from the City Planning Department before ACDEH registration. Requirements vary by city. For unincorporated Alameda County, contact the county planning department. City of Berkeley has its own program and is excluded from ACDEH jurisdiction.

Health

Conditional. CFO Class A: no routine inspection; upon complaint only. CFO Class B: annual inspection. MEHKO: initial inspection required before permit issuance; routine inspections scheduled thereafter.

Health: <https://www.acphd.org>

Business license

Varies by city

Pickup / delivery

CFO: direct/indirect sales within California only. MEHKO: on-site dining, pickup, delivery by operator/staff. MEHKO food must be prepared and delivered same day. State preemption bars local restriction of CFOs.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

CDPH does not permit commissaries. Counties do. California cottage food (Class A/B) is county environmental health. A commissary, restaurant, or shared kitchen is a retail food facility under CalCode, also at county environmental health, on a different application than the CFO form.

Official source: [CDPH food safety program](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.acphd.org>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.acphd.org>

<https://www.acgov.org>

<https://deh.acgov.org/operations/home-based-food-business>

https://deh.acgov.org/operations-assets/docs/cottagefood/MEHKO_APP_SOP.pdf

Alameda County and nearby places

Regulation	Alameda County	Santa Clara County	Contra Costa County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No animals inside kitchen/ dining areas during MEHKO operations (MEHKO SOP requirement). State baseline applies for CFOs.	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	CFO: direct/indirect sales within California only. MEHKO: on-site dining, pickup, delivery by operator/staff. MEHKO food must be prepared a...	Direct/indirect sales within California only (state baseline). MEHKO permits on-site dining, pickup, and delivery. MEHKO: food must be prep...	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	Varies by city	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) administers both CFO Class A/B registrations/permits and the MEHKO program. CFO a...	Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health (DEH) administers both CFO Class A/B registrations/ permits and the MEHKO program, whi...	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	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
POPULATION	1,663,823	1,916,831	1,162,648

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

California permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/california.pdf

California cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/california

Alameda County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/california/alameda-county