

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

No

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

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 Mendocino County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Mendocino 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

No

LOCAL HEALTH

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

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/mendocino-county>

Mendocino County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/california/mendocino-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

State law page: 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

No. California GOV §51035 preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations. Mendocino County Cottage Food Permit registration through Environmental Health is the applicable requirement (mendocinocounty.gov/Home/Components/ServiceDirectory/ServiceDirectory/444/3680).

Health

Yes. Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required. Mendocino County Environmental Health administers via enviroh@mendocinocounty.gov.

Health: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/public-health/environmental-health/consumer-protection>

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Class A: direct sales only (home, farmers markets, events, online within California). Class B: also allows retail stores and restaurants. No interstate sales.

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.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/public-health/environmental-health/consumer-protection>

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.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/public-health/environmental-health/consumer-protection>

<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov>

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

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

<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/Home/Components/ServiceDirectory/ServiceDirectory/444/3680>

<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/public-health/environmental-health/consumer-protection>

Mendocino County and nearby places

Regulation	Mendocino County	Lake County	Tehama County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition for cottage food; good manufacturing practices recommend keeping pets out of food preparation areas.	Not specified but standard sanitation expected	Pets should be excluded during food preparation per food safety training and good manufacturing practice
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Conditional	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales only (home, farmers markets, events, online within California). Class B: also allows retail stores and restaurants. N...	Class A: direct sales from home or at community events within California. Class B: direct and indirect sales through retailers/restaurants ...	Class A: direct sales only including online and shipping within California. Class B: direct and indirect including retail stores and restau...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	Yes	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	California two-tier cottage food system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206/year cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect sales, ...	Class A (direct sales only): annual self-certification registration with Lake County Environmental Health required. Class B (direct + indir...	Class A (direct sales only): up to ~\$86,206/year; Class B (direct and indirect): up to ~\$172,411/year with home inspection required. Food s...
FOOD STORAGE	Only CDPH-approved non-PHF shelf-stable foods; must prevent contamination.	Shelf-stable non-PHF products; no acidified or low-acid canned foods	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods only; approved foods list required
POPULATION	91,145	68,024	65,484

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

Mendocino County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/california/mendocino-county