

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Monterey 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

Yes

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

What you need

Monterey 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

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

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/monterey-county>

Monterey County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/california/monterey-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. Monterey County Environmental Health requires Class A or Class B CFO application. In addition, local city or county planning approval required. Operators in unincorporated areas must obtain county planning/zoning approval; those in incorporated cities (Salinas, Monterey, etc.) must comply with city-specific rules. State law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs.

Health

Upon-complaint. Class A: no initial inspection. Class B: initial inspection and annual inspections. Both classes subject to inspection upon consumer complaint.

Business license

Yes

Pickup / delivery

Class A: direct to consumer only; internet sales must be in-person pickup or delivery within county. Class B: retail/wholesale/mail order allowed within California; internet sales pickup/delivery within county. No out-of-state 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.countyofmonterey.gov>

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.countyofmonterey.gov>

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/departments-a-h/health/environmental-health/general/applications-forms-and-permits>

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/departments-a-h/health/environmental-health/consumer-health-protection/food-application>

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

Monterey County and nearby places

Regulation	Monterey County	San Luis Obispo County	Santa Cruz County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production per state law.	General sanitation required; kitchen must be clean and pest-free	Not specified by county; state law requires sanitary food preparation area
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Depends-on-volume	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct to consumer only; internet sales must be in-person pickup or delivery within county. Class B: retail/wholesale/mail order a...	Class A: direct sales only. Class B: direct and indirect including retail. Max 1 non-family FTE employee	Class A: direct sales only (including online with local delivery/pickup or shipping within CA). Class B: direct + indirect sales (wholesale...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales only) and Class B (direct and indirect sales i...	CDPH-approved food list only; annual Class A registration or Class B permit required from SLO County Environmental Health; food handler car...	Class A (direct sales, cap ~\$86,206/year) or Class B (direct+indirect, cap ~\$172,411/year). Must register with Santa Cruz County Environmen...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only per state-approved CDPH list.	CDPH-approved non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods on CDPH approved list only; no refrigerated products
POPULATION	437,609	281,712	268,571

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

Monterey County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/california/monterey-county