

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies by city

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

What you need

Orange 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

Varies by city

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/orange-county>

Orange County cottage food law page →

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

Varies by city. State preemption (Gov. Code §51035) bars local zoning restrictions on CFOs. Orange County's permit/licensing page notes that business licenses must be handled through the city if operating within city boundaries. For unincorporated county areas, no separate home-occupation permit found for CFO.

Health

Conditional. Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: annual inspection required for permit. Both: upon-complaint investigation triggers additional fees.

Health: <https://www.ocalthinfo.com>

Business license

Varies by city

Pickup / delivery

Direct and indirect sales fulfilled in person, via mail, or third-party delivery within California only. Operator may hire up to 1 full-time employee. Advertisements must display county of approval, permit/registration number, and 'Made in a Home Kitchen' statement.

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.ocalthinfo.com/services-programs/environmental-health/plan-check>

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.ochealthinfo.com>

<https://www.ocgov.com>

<https://ochealthinfo.com/food/cottage>

<https://ochealthinfo.com/services-programs/environmental-health/food-safety-programs/cottage-food>

Orange County and nearby places

Regulation	Orange County	San Diego County	Riverside County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales fulfilled in person, via mail, or third-party delivery within California only. Operator may hire up to 1 full-tim...	MEHKO permits on-site dining, pickup, and delivery by operator/staff. CFO allows in-home direct sales and online orders. State preemption b...	Direct/indirect sales within California only. State baseline applies. Operator may hire up to 1 full-time employee.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Orange County Environmental Health administers CFO Class A (direct sales, no inspection) and Class B (indirect/retail, annual inspection) r...	San Diego County opted into the permanent MEHKO program (effective January 5, 2024), administered by the Department of Environmental Health...	Riverside University Health System – Environmental Health administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. No MEHKO opt-in confir...
FOOD STORAGE	Food may only be made and stored in the kitchen and an attached storage room used only for the home operation (state baseline).	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
POPULATION	3,175,227	3,289,701	2,429,487

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

Orange County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/california/orange-county