

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kings County

California · Hanford · FIPS 06031 · Population 152,515 ·
Crosodo Index #2320*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

CALIFORNIA: KINGS COUNTY

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Kings County

Population 152,515 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Kings County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only state-approved foods list permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Kings County requires county permit/registration through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required. Complaint-based enforcement possible.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Kings County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only state-approved foods list permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement under CA cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required as part of cottage food operation standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required. Complaint-based enforcement possible.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Kings County requires county permit/registration through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: California only, no interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted statewide.

Relevant county code

Kings County Environmental Health cottage food regulations; Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. California permits handled by county Environmental Health departments. Kings County Environmental Health administers cottage food permits. No Kings County-specific cottage food code identified beyond state framework.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.kingscounty.gov>

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

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

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/california/kings-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Kings County	San Luis Obispo County	Monterey County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.	General sanitation required; kitchen must be clean and pest-free	Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production per state law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Depends-on-volume	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: ...	Class A: direct sales only. Class B: direct and indirect including retail. Max 1 non-family FTE employee	Class A: direct to consumer only; internet sales must be in-person pickup or delivery within county. Class B: retail/wholesale/mail order a...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety trai...	CDPH-approved food list only; annual Class A registration or Class B permit required from SLO County Environmental Health; food handler car...	California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales only) and Class B (direct and indirect sales i...
FOOD STORAGE	Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.	CDPH-approved non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only per state-approved CDPH list.
POPULATION	152,515	281,712	437,609

State context — California cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — 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.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [California cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

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

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

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

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Kings County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/california/kings-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 Kings County, California. 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 free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/california/kings-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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