

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Nevada County

California · Nevada City · FIPS 06057 · Population 102,322 ·
Crosodo Index #735*

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: NEVADA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #735* · FIPS 06057 · Nevada City

Nevada County

Population 102,322 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (California two-tier system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect, ~\$172,411 annual cap, requires home kitchen inspection). Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted — most non-perishable non-TCS foods. Food safety training required every 3 years (ANSI-accredited course). Local environmental health departments handle permits/registrations. Local zoning preempted statewide by GOV §51035.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state pet restriction, but local health department may have requirements during kitchen inspection for Class B.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning from restricting cottage food operations. Nevada County Environmental Health administers CFO permits and fees. No home occupation permit specifically required for CFO under state preemption, but Nevada County may have general home business registration requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Class A: No routine inspection. Class B: Home kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Subsequent inspections by Nevada County Environmental Health.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — California two-tier system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect, ~\$172,411 annual cap, requires home kitchen inspection). Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted — most non-perishable non-TCS foods. Food safety training required every 3 years (ANSI-accredited course). Local environmental health departments handle permits/registrations. Local zoning preempted statewide by GOV §51035.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific state pet restriction, but local health department may have requirements during kitchen inspection for Class B.

WATER SUPPLY No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation for Class A. Class B inspection may include water supply review.

HANDWASHING Food safety training required (ANSI-accredited course, 3-year renewal).

FOOD STORAGE Only approved foods list items permitted. Temperature-controlled and perishable foods prohibited. All sales and deliveries must remain within California.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Class A: No routine inspection. Class B: Home kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Subsequent inspections by Nevada County Environmental Health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning from restricting cottage food operations. Nevada County Environmental Health administers CFO permits and fees. No home occupation permit specifically required for CFO under state preemption, but Nevada County may have general home business registration requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

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 and indirect sales (to retailers and restaurants) within California. Interstate sales prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted per state law.

Relevant county code

No specific Nevada County code section identified. State law governs: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758. Nevada County Environmental Health administers locally.

RESEARCH NOTES

Nevada County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Nevada County is a rural Sierra Nevada foothills county with Nevada City as the historic gold rush county seat. California’s two-tier system with CPI-adjusted annual caps applies. Only 1 non-family employee permitted statewide. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Nevada County	Yuba County	Placer County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction, but local health department may have requirements during kitchen inspection for Class B.	Not specified in state law; kitchen inspection for Class B will evaluate conditions.	No infants or pets allowed in kitchen during food production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Conditional	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: Direct sales only (online and shipping within California). Class B: Direct and indirect sales (to retailers and restaurants) withi...	Class A: direct sales only to consumers (farmers markets, events, from home, online with in-state shipping). Class B: direct plus indirect ...	Class A: direct-to-consumer sales only. Class B: retail and wholesale sales also permitted. All sales within California. Label must include...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Conditional	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	California two-tier system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect, ~\$172,411 annual ...	California two-tier system: Class A (direct sales only, up to ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025, CPI-adjusted) and Class B (direct and indirec...	California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales only) and Class B (direct and indirect sales) ...
FOOD STORAGE	Only approved foods list items permitted. Temperature-controlled and perishable foods prohibited. All sales and deliveries must remain with...	Standard food safety storage; all production/ storage within home kitchen space.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only per state-approved CDPH list. Storage in kitchen or dedicated storage room.
POPULATION	102,322	81,705	406,608

State context — California cottage food law

Nevada 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.legislature.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 Nevada County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/california/nevada-county-discuss>
