

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Santa Barbara County

California · Santa Barbara · FIPS 06083 · Population 445,213
· Crosodo Index #2799*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Santa Barbara County, California — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under California cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ California home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[California label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

CALIFORNIA: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2799* · FIPS 06083 · Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara County

Population 445,213 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · **HIGH****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Conditional (California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect sales, ~\$172,411 cap) operations. Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services (EHS) administers CFO registrations/permits. Class A registration fee \$199; Class B health permit fee \$271. Class A: no initial inspection; Class B: initial and annual inspections required. Only state-approved non-TCS foods permitted (per CDPH approved foods list). Food worker certification required within 3 months of registration. No pets or children in kitchen during production; no smoking.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Santa Barbara County EHS requires Class A registration (\$199/yr) or Class B health permit (\$271/yr). Additionally, local city or county planning department approval required: Home Occupation Permit or business license from local city planning department, or Exemption Letter from county Code Enforcement if in unincorporated areas. Contact SB County EHS: 800-442-2283. California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Class A: no initial inspection; only upon consumer complaint. Class B: initial inspection before permit issuance, then annual inspections. Complaint-based inspections for both classes.)

Home kitchen rules**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Conditional — California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect sales, ~\$172,411 cap) operations. Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services (EHS) administers CFO registrations/permits. Class A registration fee \$199; Class B health permit fee \$271. Class A: no initial inspection; Class B: initial and annual inspections required. Only state-approved non-TCS foods permitted (per CDPH approved foods list). Food worker certification required within 3 months of registration. No pets or children in kitchen during production; no smoking.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.

WATER SUPPLY

Standard water requirements per Environmental Health Services.

HANDWASHING

Required per California Food Code.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only per state-approved list.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Class A: no initial inspection; only upon consumer complaint. Class B: initial inspection before permit issuance, then annual inspections. Complaint-based inspections for both classes.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Santa Barbara County EHS requires Class A registration (\$199/yr) or Class B health permit (\$271/yr). Additionally, local city or county planning department approval required: Home Occupation Permit or business license from local city planning department, or Exemption Letter from county Code Enforcement if in unincorporated areas. Contact SB County EHS: 800-442-2283. California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct-to-consumer only within California (in-person, online, delivery). Class B: direct and indirect sales to retailers/restaurants within California. Out-of-county sales require permission from destination county EHS agency.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted under state law.

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; Santa Barbara County EHS CFO program (ehs.sbcounty.gov).

RESEARCH NOTES

Santa Barbara County EHS FAQ PDF directly confirms Class A (\$199) and Class B (\$271) fees, inspection requirements, and planning department approval requirements. Class B annual inspection is notable. Local planning/zoning approval required in addition to EHS registration. California state law preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations (GOV §51035). Current official SBC EHS website URL (sbcounty.gov/phd) was returning errors; the EHS subdomain (ehs.sbcounty.gov) was the working source.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.countyofsb.org>

<https://ehs.sbcounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/97/Programs/Food/CottageFoodOps/cottage-food-operations-faq.pdf>

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

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/california/santa-barbara-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Santa Barbara County	Ventura County	San Luis Obispo County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.	Standard sanitation; not specifically stated in county materials	General sanitation required; kitchen must be clean and pest-free
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Conditional	Depends-on-volume
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct-to-consumer only within California (in-person, online, delivery). Class B: direct and indirect sales to retailers/restauran...	Class A: direct sales via in person, phone, internet; mail/ third-party delivery within California. Class B: direct plus indirect (restauran...	Class A: direct sales only. Class B: direct and indirect including retail. Max 1 non-family FTE employee
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	California cottage food law (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758) allows Class A (direct sales, ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025) and Class B (...)	Ventura County Resource Management Agency (Environmental Health Division) administers CFO permits. Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,00...	CDPH-approved food list only; annual Class A registration or Class B permit required from SLO County Environmental Health; food handler car...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only per state-approved list.	Standard food storage per state approved foods list	CDPH-approved non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	445,213	842,009	281,712

State context — California cottage food law

Santa Barbara 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** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/california.

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 about Santa Barbara County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/california/santa-barbara-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 Santa Barbara 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 on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/california/santa-barbara-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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