

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Solano County

California · Fairfield · FIPS 06095 · Population 450,995 ·
Crosodo Index #2800*

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.

CALIFORNIA: SOLANO COUNTY

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Solano County

Population 450,995 · 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, annual cap ~\$86,206 as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect sales, ~\$172,411 cap) operations. Solano County Environmental Health requires annual registration/permit. Class A: no home inspection required. Class B: home inspection required. Only state-approved non-TCS foods permitted. Food safety training required every 3 years. No smoking in kitchen; no pets or children in kitchen during production. Local Fairfield/Vacaville/etc. home-based business license may also be required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Solano County Environmental Health issues CFO annual registration/permit (Class A ~\$96/yr; Class B ~\$316/yr per 2013 data, current fees may differ — call 707-784-6765). Local city home-based business license also required (e.g., Benicia requires home-based business license in addition to county CFO permit). California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Class A: no inspection required. Class B: inspection required before permit. Inspections may occur upon complaint for both classes.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Pets prohibited from kitchen during food production.

WATER SUPPLY

Standard water supply requirements per Environmental Health.

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 inspection required. Class B: inspection required before permit. Inspections may occur upon complaint for both classes.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Solano County Environmental Health issues CFO annual registration/permit (Class A ~\$96/yr; Class B ~\$316/yr per 2013 data, current fees may differ — call 707-784-6765). Local city home-based business license also required (e.g., Benicia requires home-based business license in addition to county CFO permit). 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 sales only (in-person, online, delivery within California). Class B: may also sell to retail stores and restaurants. Out-of-county sales require permission from other counties. All sales within California.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted under state law.

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (state CFO law); Solano County Environmental Health Food Program (CFO permits).

RESEARCH NOTES

Solano County Environmental Health has a dedicated CFO page confirming Class A and Class B permit structure, annual renewal requirement, and inspection rules. Fee data from 2013 (\$96 Class A, \$316 Class B) — current fees likely higher; call 707-784-6765. MEHKO program also available for full meal service. Local city business license also required (confirmed via 2013 news article about Benicia operator). State preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs (GOV §51035).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.solanocounty.gov/health>

<https://www.solanocounty.com>

https://app.solanocounty.gov/depts/rm/environmental_health/consumer/food_program/cottage_food_operations.asp

<https://www.solanocounty.gov/government/resource-management/environmental-health/home-based-food-operation>

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

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

State context — California cottage food law

Solano 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.

<p>STATUTE Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION No</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP Tiered (see notes)</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
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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 Solano County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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