

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Adams County

Idaho · Council · FIPS 16003 · Population 4,294 · Crosodo Index #683\*

## STATE BASELINE

IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)

## STATE TIER

Great

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

## LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

**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.

IDAHO: ADAMS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #683\* · FIPS 16003 · Council

# Adams County

Population 4,294 · State baseline: IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions) ·

MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods such as pickles/salsas). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Adams County is a very small, rural county (pop. ~4,300). Idaho counties typically require a home occupation permit or conditional use permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Business must be secondary to residential use, operated by a resident, with no exterior signage or commercial evidence, and limited customer traffic. Contact Adams County Clerk/Planning at (208) 253-4561 for specific county zoning requirements.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No routine inspection. Southwest District Health (serving Adams County) may investigate upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods such as pickles/salsas). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required. No additional testing requirements specified at state level.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard good hygiene practices expected; no specific statutory handwashing infrastructure requirement for cottage food.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Products must be stored at producer’s primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply to prevent adulteration.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. Southwest District Health (serving Adams County) may investigate upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Adams County is a very small, rural county (pop. ~4,300). Idaho counties typically require a home occupation permit or conditional use permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Business must be secondary to residential use, operated by a resident, with no exterior signage or commercial evidence, and limited customer traffic. Contact Adams County Clerk/Planning at (208) 253-4561 for specific county zoning requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; pickup at home is permitted. Customer visits that generate significant traffic may require a home occupation permit from county planning. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or internet sales allowed under state law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law. County home occupation rules typically restrict non-resident employees.

### Relevant county code

Adams County Zoning Ordinance (unincorporated areas); contact Adams County for current text.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Adams County is one of Idaho's least populous counties. No specific county zoning ordinance text was located. Idaho cottage food is governed by IDAPA 16.02.19; direct sales only; no acidified foods; no registration or inspection required. County-level home occupation rules presumed to follow standard Idaho rural county pattern (home occupation permit required, no exterior signage, limited traffic). Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://adamscountyidaho.net>

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

<https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Adams County	Gem County	Idaho County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; pickup at home is permitted. Customer visits that generate significant traffic may req...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply to prevent adulteration.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.
POPULATION	4,294	18,700	16,267

## State context — Idaho cottage food law

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

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<b>STATUTE</b>	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b>
IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)	—
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b>
No	No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b>	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b>
No	Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b>	
No — Idaho prohibits wholesale, restaurant, and retail store sales; only direct-to-consumer in-person sales at home, farmers markets, events, online (pickup/delivery), and roadside stands are allowed.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/idaho/adams-county-discuss>

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