



REGISTRATION FOR ORGANIC FOOD PROCESSORS

Organic food processing operations must register with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) or the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), prior to the first sale of product

DO I REGISTER WITH CDFA OR CDPH?

CDFA

Processors and handlers of processed meat, fowl, or dairy products, and retailers that are engaged in the processing or handling of processed products sold as organic.

CDPH

Processors and handlers of processed/manufactured products for human consumption that are not part of the CDFA categories above, including dietary supplements, alcoholic beverages, fish or seafood; and processors or handlers of animal food and cosmetics sold as organic.

Cottage Food Operation (CFO)

A CFO is an operation at a private home or dwelling where specific low-risk food products that do not require refrigeration are made or repackaged for sale to consumers.

CFO Requirements

- Meet registration/permitting requirements for Class A (direct sales only) or Class B (direct and indirect sales)
- Obtain approval from the local city or county planning department
- Label cottage food products in accordance with state and federal regulations
- Complete a CDPH approved food processor course
- Meet CFO food preparation and sanitation requirements
- Do not exceed \$50,000 in gross annual sales

Organic CFOs

IN ADDITION TO MEETING GENERAL CFO REQUIREMENTS, ORGANIC CFOS MUST ALSO

- Register with the CDFA
- Comply with state and federal organic regulations

Gross Sales Limit

Once a CFO exceeds gross sales of \$50,000, the operation must move to a commercial processing facility and register with CDPH under the Processed Food Registration Program.

SUPPORTING THE ORGANIC INDUSTRY

The **CDFA State Organic Program** is here to

■ Support ■ Inform ■ Guide

**READY TO START YOUR ORGANIC
PROCESSOR REGISTRATION?**

Connect with us at

WWW.CDFA.CA.GOV/IS/

OR

WWW.CDPH.CA.GOV

**To Learn more about Cottage Food Operations and
all the requirements, visit the following URLs**

Cottage Food Operations

[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/
FoodSafetyProgram/CottageFoodOperations.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/FoodSafetyProgram/CottageFoodOperations.aspx)

Approved Cottage Foods

[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20
Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/CottageFood/Approved%20Cottage%20
Food%20List%20%20for%20Web%20July%201%202018.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/CottageFood/Approved%20Cottage%20Food%20List%20%20for%20Web%20July%201%202018.pdf)

Local Health Offices

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/pages/localhealthservicesandoffices.aspx#>