



# County of San Diego

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD AND HOUSING DIVISION

P.O. BOX 129261, SAN DIEGO, CA 92112-9261  
Phone: (858) 505-6900 | 1 (800) 253-9933 | Fax: (858) 505-6998 | [www.sdcdelh.org](http://www.sdcdelh.org)



## COTTAGE FOOD OPERATION LABELING REQUIREMENTS

Assembly Bill (AB) 1616, the Homemade Food Act, commonly referred to as the Cottage Food Operation (CFO) Law, allows individuals to prepare and/or package certain non-potentially hazardous foods from within their home kitchens and sell directly and indirectly to the public. All CFO products must be properly labeled for sale to the public. Cottage Food Operators are required to meet the labeling guidelines defined in Section 114365.2 of the California Health and Safety Code. The following information is provided to assist Cottage Food Operators properly complete their product labels. Labels submitted for review must have all of the required information to be approved.

**The following information must be present on all CFO product labels. Please see the accompanying pages for specific label samples.**

1. The common or descriptive name of the product.
2. The business name of Cottage Food Operation.
3. The physical address of Cottage Food Operation. The address shall include the Street Number, Street Name, City, State and Zip Code. If the CFO business is listed in a major telephone directory with the name of the business and complete physical address, then just the City, State and Zip Code of the Cottage Food Operation needs to be provided on the labels.
4. A consumer notification indicating that the product was not made in a commercial facility. The wording "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen" shall be used as applicable. **Both must be printed in no less than 12 point font.**
5. A complete list of product ingredients. If the product contains two or more ingredients, the ingredients must be listed in descending order of predominance by weight. Sub-ingredients of a food that is an ingredient in a CFO product must also be listed following the name of the ingredient.
6. An Allergen Declaration written in plain language must be present on the label if the food being prepared contains any of the major food allergens: milk, eggs, tree nuts (e.g., almonds, pecans, walnuts), wheat, peanuts, or soybeans.
7. The Net Quantity (weight or volume) of the food product in the package or container. This information must be stated in BOTH English Units (pound) and Metric Units (grams).
8. The Registration Number (for Class A operations) or Permit Number (for Class B operations) must be provided. This number is issued by this department after approval of the application. *Note: For label submittal purposes, a placeholder may be used. (ex - DEH2017-FCFO-XXXXXX)*
9. Name of the County issuing the Cottage Food Registration or Permit. (For Class A Operations: Registration Issued by San Diego County; For Class B Operations: Permit Issued by San Diego County).

**IMPORTANT:** A Nutrition Facts Panel must be incorporated into the label if the food label makes any nutrient content health claims. *Using the following eleven terms are considered a nutrient content health claim (nutritional value of a food): free, low, reduced, fewer, high, less, more, lean, extra lean, good source, and light.*

*\*The smallest acceptable letter size for the label text (excluding the consumer notification) is 1/16<sup>th</sup> of an inch in height measured at a lower case "o".*

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### LABELING REQUIREMENTS - CLASS A REGISTRATION

All proposed Cottage Food Operations (CFOs) shall submit labels for review for the corresponding products that are going to be produced. Cottage Food Operators are required to submit labels for no more than ten (10) products for review including at least one product from each category of food to be prepared. Any product labels above the initial ten (10) that are submitted for review will be subject to the current DEH-FHD hourly rate. These labels must contain specific information as required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Labels submitted for DEH review must contain all required information to be approved.

CLASS A LABEL REQUIREMENTS (SINGLE LABEL)
<b>Product Name</b> - This is the common name of product.
<b>Business Name</b> - This is the registered name of the Cottage Food Operation.
<b>Business Address</b> - This is the physical address of Cottage Food Operation which needs to include: Street Number, Street Name, City, State, Zip Code.
<b>Alternative Business Address</b> - If the CFO is listed in a major phone directory showing the name of the business and the physical address, then just the City, State and Zip Code may be printed on the label.
<b>Consumer Notification</b> - All labels must contain the wording "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen". <i>*This is the exact wording that must be used and must be printed in at least 12 point font.</i>
<b>List of Product Ingredients</b> - If the product contains <u>two or more ingredients</u> , the ingredients must be listed in descending order of predominance by weight. Sub-ingredients of a food listed as an ingredient must also be listed following the name of the ingredient.
<b>Allergen Declaration</b> - If the food contains any of the major food allergens: milk, eggs, tree nuts (e.g., almonds, pecans, walnuts), wheat, peanuts, or soybeans (or soy based products), a declaration of the allergens present must be provided.
<b>Net Quantity</b> - Refers to the quantity (weight or volume) of food in a package or container. Information must be stated in BOTH English Units (pound) and Metric Units (grams).
<b>Registration Number</b> - This number will be issued following approval of the submitted CFO application. For label submittal purposes, the following placeholder may be used: <i>DEH2017-FCFO-XXXXXX</i> .
<b>Name of Issuing County</b> - The following must be on each Class A label: <i>Registration Issued by San Diego County.</i>



**CLASS A CFO Label Sample**  
**Uses the wording "Registration Issued By"**

*\*The smallest acceptable letter size for the label text is 1/16<sup>th</sup> of an inch in height measured at a lower case "o", with the exception of "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen" which is required to be at least 12 point font.*

**IMPORTANT:** A Nutrition Facts Panel must be incorporated into the label if the food label makes any nutrient content health claims. Using the following eleven terms are considered a nutrient content health claim (nutritional value of a food): **free, low, reduced, fewer, high, less, more, lean, extra lean, good source, and light.**

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### LABELING REQUIREMENTS - CLASS B PERMIT

All proposed Cottage Food Operations (CFOs) shall submit labels for review for the corresponding products that are going to be produced. Cottage Food Operators are required to submit labels for no more than ten (10) products for review including at least one product from each category of food to be prepared. Any product labels above the initial ten (10) that are submitted for review will be subject to the current DEH-FHD hourly rate. These labels must contain specific information as required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Labels submitted for DEH review must contain all required information to be approved.

CLASS B LABEL REQUIREMENTS (SINGLE LABEL)
<b>Product Name</b> - This is the common name of product.
<b>Business Name</b> - This is the registered name of the Cottage Food Operation.
<b>Business Address</b> - This is the physical address of Cottage Food Operation which needs to include: Street Number, Street Name, City, State, Zip Code.
<b>Alternative Business Address</b> - If the CFO is listed in a major phone directory showing the name of the business and the physical address, then just the City, State and Zip Code may be printed on the label.
<b>Consumer Notification</b> - All labels must contain the wording "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen". <i>*This is the exact wording that must be used and must be printed in at least 12 point font.</i>
<b>List of Product Ingredients</b> - If the product contains <u>two or more ingredients</u> , the ingredients must be listed in descending order of predominance by weight. Sub-ingredients of a food listed as an ingredient must also be listed following the name of the ingredient.
<b>Allergen Declaration</b> - If the food contains any of the major food allergens: milk, eggs, tree nuts (e.g., almonds, pecans, walnuts), wheat, peanuts, or soybeans (or soy based products), a declaration of the allergens present must be provided.
<b>Net Quantity</b> - Refers to the quantity (weight or volume) of food in a package or container. Information must be stated in BOTH English Units (pound) and Metric Units (grams).
<b>Permit Number</b> - This number will be issued following approval of the submitted CFO application. For label submittal purposes, the following placeholder may be used: <i>DEH2017-FCFO-XXXXXX</i> .
<b>Name of Issuing County</b> - The following must be on each Class B label: <i>Permit Issued by San Diego County.</i>

CHOCOLATE  
CHIP COOKIES

MADE IN A HOME  
KITCHEN

Beachside

Bakers




5500 Overland Ave. San Diego, CA 92123

Nt. Weight: 6 oz 170.1 g

Ingredients: Enriched flour (wheat flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin and folic acid), butter (milk, salt), chocolate chips (sugar, chocolate liquor, cocoa butter, butterfat), walnuts, sugar, eggs, salt, artificial vanilla extract (water, alcohol, vanilla extractives), and baking soda.

Contains: Wheat, eggs, milk, walnuts

Permit Issued by San Diego County  
DEH2017-FCFO-999999

**CLASS B CFO Label Sample**  
**Uses the wording "Permit Issued By"**

*\*The smallest acceptable letter size for the label text is 1/16<sup>th</sup> of an inch in height measured at a lower case "o", with the exception of "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen" which is required to be at least 12 point font.*

**IMPORTANT:** A Nutrition Facts Panel must be incorporated into the label if the food label makes any nutrient content health claims. Using the following eleven terms are considered a nutrient content health claim (nutritional value of a food): **free, low, reduced, fewer, high, less, more, lean, extra lean, good source, and light.**

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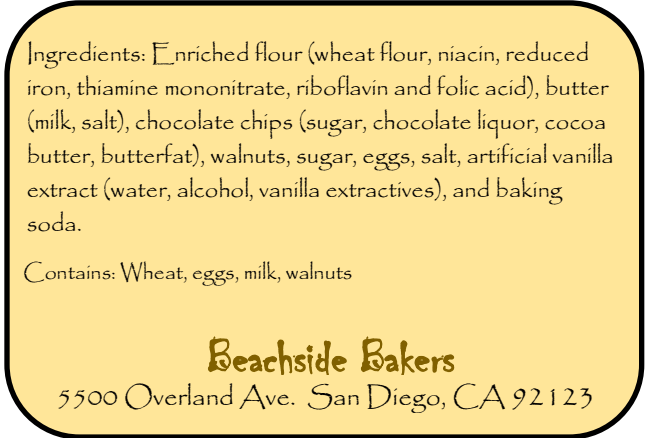
### LABELING REQUIREMENTS – SPLIT LABEL

All proposed Cottage Food Operations (CFOs) shall submit labels for review for the corresponding products that are going to be produced. Cottage Food Operators are required to submit labels for no more than ten (10) products for review including at least one product from each category of food to be prepared. Any product labels above the initial ten (10) that are submitted for review will be subject to the current DEH-FHD hourly rate. These labels must contain specific information as required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Labels submitted for DEH review must contain all required information to be approved. If desired, information may be distributed by using a *Principal Display Panel* and an *Information Panel*.

PRINCIPAL DISPLAY PANEL REQUIREMENTS
<b>Product Name</b> - This is the common name of product.
<b>Consumer Notification</b> - All labels must contain the wording "Made in a Home Kitchen" or "Repackaged in a Home Kitchen". <i>*This is the exact wording that must be used and must be printed in at least 12 point font.</i>
<b>Net Quantity</b> - Refers to the quantity (weight or volume) of food in a package or container. Information must be stated in BOTH English Units (pound) and Metric Units (grams).
<b>Registration Number</b> - This number will be issued following approval of the submitted CFO application. For label submittal purposes, the following placeholder may be used: <i>DEH2017-FCFO-XXXXXX</i> .
<b>Name of Issuing County</b> - The following must be on each label: <i>Registration/Permit Issued by San Diego County.</i>
INFORMATION PANEL REQUIREMENTS
<b>Business Name</b> - This is the registered name of the Cottage Food Operation.
<b>Business Address</b> - This is the physical address of Cottage Food Operation which needs to include: Street Number, Street Name, City, State, Zip Code.
<b>Alternative Business Address</b> - If the CFO is listed in a major phone directory showing the name of the business and the physical address, then just the City, State and Zip Code may be printed on the label.
<b>List of Product Ingredients</b> - If the product contains <u>two or more ingredients</u> , the ingredients must be listed in descending order of predominance by weight. Sub-ingredients of a food listed as an ingredient must also be listed following the name of the ingredient.
<b>Allergen Declaration</b> - If the food contains any of the major food allergens: milk, eggs, tree nuts (e.g., almonds, pecans, walnuts), wheat, peanuts, or soybeans (or soy based products), a declaration of the allergens present must be provided.



**Principal Display Panel**



**Information Panel**

**IMPORTANT:** A Nutrition Facts Panel must be incorporated into the label if the food label makes any nutrient content health claims. Using the following eleven terms are considered a nutrient content health claim (nutritional value of a food): *free, low, reduced, fewer, high, less, more, lean, extra lean, good source, and light.*

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### Single Label Samples

CHOCOLATE  
CHIP COOKIES

MADE IN A HOME  
KITCHEN

Beachside  
Bakers

5500 Overland Ave. San Diego, Ca 92123

Nt. Weight: 6 oz 170.1 g

Ingredients: Enriched flour (wheat flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin and folic acid), butter (milk, salt), chocolate chips (sugar, chocolate liquor, cocoa butter, butterfat), walnuts, sugar, eggs, salt, artificial vanilla extract (water, alcohol, vanilla extractives), and baking soda.

Contains: Wheat, eggs, milk, walnuts

Registration Issued by San Diego County  
DEH2017-FCFO-999999

**CLASS A CFO Label Sample**  
Uses the wording "Registration Issued By"

5500 Overland Ave. San Diego, Ca 92123

Beachside  
Bakers

CHOCOLATE  
CHIP COOKIES

Ingredients: Enriched flour (wheat flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin and folic acid), butter (milk, salt), chocolate chips (sugar, chocolate liquor, cocoa butter, butterfat), walnuts, sugar, eggs, salt, artificial vanilla extract (water, alcohol, vanilla extractives), and baking soda.

Contains: Wheat, eggs, milk, walnuts

Nt. Weight: 6 oz 170.1 g

MADE IN A HOME KITCHEN

Permit Issued by San Diego County DEH2017-FCFO-999999

**CLASS B CFO Label Sample**  
Uses the wording "Permit Issued By"

### Split Label Sample

CHOCOLATE  
CHIP  
COOKIES

Nt. Weight: 6 oz. 170.1 g

MADE IN A HOME KITCHEN

Permit Issued by San Diego County  
DEH2017-FCFO-999999

**Principal Display Panel**

Ingredients: Enriched flour (wheat flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin and folic acid), butter (milk, salt), chocolate chips (sugar, chocolate liquor, cocoa butter, butterfat), walnuts, sugar, eggs, salt, artificial vanilla extract (water, alcohol, vanilla extractives), and baking soda.

Contains: Wheat, eggs, milk, walnuts

Beachside Bakers  
5500 Overland Ave. San Diego, Ca 92123

**Information Panel**