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Unincorporated Chaffee County vacation rental checklist

Chaffee County, Colorado | Rules checked November 8, 2026

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Outside town limits, Chaffee County requires a short-term rental license through county planning: $650 to apply plus a $350 license fee the first year, and $400 plus $350 to renew. Stays owe 2.9% state and 2.75% county sales tax.

> We read only the county's fee schedule. Ask county planning for the current license standards (inspections, occupancy, parking) before you apply.

Licensing steps

STATE OF COLORADO

- [ ] **Get a state sales tax license**
  If you rent rooms or a home for stays under 30 days, Colorado requires a sales tax license from the Department of Revenue. Platforms like Airbnb collect the state and state-administered taxes on their bookings; you file for anything booked directly.
  MyBiz Colorado: https://mybiz.colorado.gov/
- [ ] **Check for home-rule city taxes**
  Many cities and mountain towns collect their own sales and lodging taxes. Platforms aren't required by the state to collect these, so you may need a separate city tax license and returns.
- [ ] **Get your county or city rental license**
  Most Colorado mountain counties and towns, and Denver, require a short-term rental license or permit, often with an inspection, an occupancy limit, posted information, and a local responder. Pick your area for the rules.

CHAFFEE COUNTY, COLORADO

- [ ] **Get a state sales tax license**
  Needed for any rental unless a platform covers all your taxes.
- [ ] **Then your town or area**
  Towns set their own rental licenses and collect their own taxes, and the county's rules cover only areas outside town limits. Pick your area.

UNINCORPORATED CHAFFEE COUNTY

- [ ] **Apply to county planning**
  Apply to Chaffee County Planning and Zoning for a short-term rental license. Ask what inspection and septic review your home needs; the county may require an escrow deposit if outside agencies review the application.
  Chaffee County Planning and Zoning: https://www.chaffeecounty.org/Planning-and-Zoning
- [ ] **Taxes on each stay**
  Stays under 30 days owe 2.9% state plus 2.75% Chaffee County sales tax. Airbnb and other platforms collect the state and state-administered taxes on their bookings; for direct bookings, file with the Colorado Department of Revenue. There is no county lodging tax increase: voters rejected one in November 2025.

Fees

$1,000 the first year, $750 a year after

Initial application review	**$650**
Renewal application review	**$400**
License fee (each year)	**$350**

Official sources

Colorado Department of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Topics: Rooms & Accommodations-
. https://tax.colorado.gov/sales-use-tax-topics-rooms-accommodations

Colorado Department of Revenue: Sales Tax Guide and Colorado Sales/Use Tax Rates (DR 1002)-
. https://tax.colorado.gov/sites/tax/files/Sales%2011.pdf

Chaffee County Planning and Zoning: Planning and Zoning Application Fee Schedule (effective January 1, 2025).
https://cms2.revize.com/revize/chaffeecounty/Documents/Departments/Planning%20&%20Zoning/Application%20Forms%20&%20Fees/app_fee_schedule.pdf

City of Salida: Short Term Rentals. https://cityofsalida.com/node/7551