

San Carlos Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Standards (DRAFT)

STANDARDS	
Zones allowed	RS-3, RS-6, RM-20 and RM-59
Lot restrictions	RS-3 maximum lot coverage is 25-35%. RS-6 maximum lot coverage is 50%. RM-20 maximum lot coverage is 65%. RM-59 maximum lot coverage is 75%. Must contain a previously established single-family dwelling.
Minimum lot size	None
Min / Max ADU size	State law provisions apply as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max detached: 1,200 sf • Max attached: 50% of living space
ADU building height	Attached to main residence: 28 feet Above detached garage: 28 feet All other: 12-15 feet
Setbacks	Above garage: 5 feet sides and rear RS-3, attached to main residence: first story side setback 10 feet; second story side setback 14 feet; rear setback 20 feet RS-6, attached to main residence: first story side setback 5 feet; second story side setback 9 feet; rear setback 15 feet
Parking requirements	One space is required unless state exemptions are met (ADU is within ½ mile of transit, in existing structures, in historic districts, within one block of car share locations, or in an area with residential parking permit rules that do not allow second units to get a permit). Parking in setbacks is allowed, and tandem parking is allowed if it does not encumber access to the required parking for the single-family dwelling. All other ADUs may be granted a parking waiver, subject to public hearing.
Owner occupancy	Owner must live in the main dwelling or the ADU
Sample fees*	ADU (500 sf, garage conversion): \$3,000
Other requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADUs must conform to all development standards in the Zoning District in which they are proposed. An ADU must comply with minimum requirements as listed in Government Code Section 65852.2 (a)(3)(b)(1)(a)(A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I). • The architectural design, exterior materials and colors, roof pitch and style, type of windows, and trim details of the second dwelling unit shall be substantially the same as and visually compatible with the primary dwelling. • A permit may be required for tree removals. • Only one ADU per property is allowed.
Process	Applicants may submit to the Building Division for building permits. Once received by Building, plans are routed to planning for review and informal approval. Applicants are encouraged to meet with Planning before submitting plans to Building.
Exceptions	Waivers may be granted for some of the ADU development standards, but are subject to public hearing. The Director may grant a waiver to the 400 foot separation requirement if he finds that there are no substantial parking, privacy, noise, health and safety or visual impacts to neighbors associated with the location and siting of the detached second dwelling unit.
INFORMATION	
Contact	Brittany Whitehill, Planning Technician 650-802-4208 – bwhitehill@cityofsancarlos.org
Website	www.cityofsancarlos.org
ADU Ordinance	n/a

Disclaimer: standards and process may vary. Consultation with the contact is recommended before starting any project. This summary was prepared by 21 Elements, not the City of San Carlos.

**Fees are specific to each project and will vary. Fees change regularly. These are provided as examples only.*