Comparison of ADU Regulations by Local Towns

	Brewster	Chatham	Dennis	Eastham	Harwich*	Orleans
Year of Bylaw	November 2018	Updated May 2022	October 2022	Updated May 2022	Updated May 2023	Updated May 2021
By right?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maximum size	900sf or 40% of pd	900sf	800sf or 40% of pd	1,200sf or 50% of pd	1,000sf	800sf
Maximum bedrooms	2	2, max occupancy 2/bedroom	2	2	2	
Rental term (minimum)	12 months	12 months^	12 months	12 months	6 months	90 days
Additional off- street parking (minimum)	1 per BR	1	On-site	1	1	0
Owner occupancy requirements	Yes	No	Yes+	No (#)	Yes (Can be part-time residence)#	No
Lot size requirements	SP under 30,000sf	No	15,000sf	No	No	30,000sf CBU
Special Permit (SP) requirements	Zone 2/ Watersheds Under 30,000sf	Detached ADU, Dimensional req. not setbacks	For all, by Planning Board	Zoning District, >50% of pd, > pre nonconforming	Preexisting nonconforming setbacks or lot coverage	
Compliance mechanism	Affidavit	Copy of rental lease	Affidavit, lease & health rent perm.	Affidavit, health registration	Affidavit, owner in residence	
Cap/ year	20 (includes ADU & ACDU)	10 by right & 10 special permit	9	No cap	No cap	No cap
Miscellaneous	Max 2 residential units/ ADU lot. Accessory apts.	1/lot, no separation	1/lot. Res. Struct must exist on lot, no separation	1 per pd, 1 rented at a time, no separation	1 per pd, one rented at a time, no separation	Addition, not> 2% increase in lot coverage

Pd= principal dwelling

sf=square feet

CBU= contiguous buildable upland

Special thanks to the CDP Resource Center for assistance in the production of this table. Information is a general summary compiled from local ADU bylaws.

^{*} Harwich bylaw passed at Town Meeting but not yet approved by the Attorney General

⁺ One unit shall be owner occupied on a year-round basis, except for bona fide temporary absences during which the owner-occupied unit is not rented # Primary Dwelling and ADU cannot be rented at the same time.

[^]ADU shall become the principal residence of the renter within 30 days of occupancy of the ADU.