

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Fayette County

Kentucky · Lexington · FIPS 21067 · Population 321,276 ·
Crosodo Index #2656*

STATE BASELINE

KRS §217.137; registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; complaint-based inspection; no food handler cert required

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Okay	60000	MEDIUM	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Fayette County, Kentucky — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

60000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Kentucky cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Kentucky home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Kentucky label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

KENTUCKY: FAYETTE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2656* · FIPS 21067 · Lexington

Fayette County

Population 321,276 · State baseline: KRS §217.137; registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; complaint-based inspection; no food handler cert required · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labeling required)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Fayette County/Lexington is a consolidated urban county government. No specific home occupation permit for cottage food identified. Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government may have home occupation zoning requirements; operator should verify with LFUCG planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based investigation by KY Dept for Public Health)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labeling required
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based investigation by KY Dept for Public Health
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Fayette County/Lexington is a consolidated urban county government. No specific home occupation permit for cottage food identified. Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government may have home occupation zoning requirements; operator should verify with LFUCG planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern-status county. Fayette County is consolidated with Lexington (LFUCG). KY requires registration and has a \$60,000 annual cap. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.fayettecounty.gov>

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/fayette-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Fayette County	Madison County	Scott County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No specific restriction stated.	KY state rules do not explicitly address pets but good sanitation practices apply. No specific county override found.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order under primary pa...	Direct sales to consumers only (KRS §217.136). In-person at home, farmers markets, events, and similar. No wholesale/retail store channel.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labe...	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. D...	Must be producer's primary residence. No commercial ranges/ovens beyond two units; no more than three refrigerators. Commercial equipment p...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; residential-scale kitchen equipment only.	All products must be shelf-stable and non-potentially hazardous. Proper storage to prevent contamination.
POPULATION	321,276	92,955	57,286

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Fayette County's rules sit on top of Kentucky's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
KRS §217.137	60000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Kentucky cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/kentucky.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/kentucky/>

Questions about Fayette County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/fayette-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Fayette County, Kentucky. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/fayette-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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