

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Tensas Parish

Louisiana · Saint Joseph · FIPS 22107 · Population 3,844 ·
Crosodo Index #2010*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
La. R.S. §40:4.9	Okay	30000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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

Tensas Parish, Louisiana — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

30000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Louisiana 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
- ☐ Louisiana home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Louisiana label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

LOUISIANA: TENSAS PARISH

CROSODO INDEX #2010* · FIPS 22107 · Saint Joseph

Tensas Parish

Population 3,844 · State baseline: La. R.S. §40:4.9 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual gross sales capped at \$30,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee assistance in production, pets excluded from preparation areas, refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients. A sales tax certificate from the parish of sale required before selling.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Tensas Parish is one of the smallest and most rural Louisiana parishes. A parish sales tax certificate is required before selling. No specific parish-level cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. LDH may investigate upon complaint or illness report.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Annual gross sales capped at \$30,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee assistance in production, pets excluded from preparation areas, refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients. A sales tax certificate from the parish of sale required before selling.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required.

HANDWASHING

Required per Louisiana food safety standards.

FOOD STORAGE

Perishable ingredients must be refrigerated at 45°F or below. Finished shelf-stable products stored in food-safe containers.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection required. LDH may investigate upon complaint or illness report.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Tensas Parish is one of the smallest and most rural Louisiana parishes. A parish sales tax certificate is required before selling. No specific parish-level cottage food ordinance identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Indirect sales allowed for most low-risk foods. Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, events. No wholesaling to retail chains.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	For the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies), no employees may assist in production.

Relevant county code

Tensas Parish Code of Ordinances (not specifically identified for cottage food); sales tax certificate required from parish.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (LA) applied: La. R.S. §40:4.9, \$30,000 cap, parish sales tax certificate required. Tensas Parish is one of the most rural and sparsely populated Louisiana parishes. No unique parish-level cottage food ordinances identified. County follows state baseline. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tensascounty.gov>

<https://ldh.la.gov/page/cottage-food-laws>

<https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=98431>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Tensas Parish	Catahoula Parish	Concordia Parish
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Indirect sales allowed for most low-risk foods. Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, events. No wholesaling to retail chains.	Direct-to-consumer (home, farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, events, online within LA, mail within LA). Big Four direct-to-consumer o...	Direct-to-consumer (home, farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, events, online within LA, mail within LA). Big Four direct-to-consumer o...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Annual gross sales capped at \$30,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee as...	Annual sales cap \$30,000. No license, permit, or registration required (only sales tax certificates from LA Dept of Revenue and local paris...	Annual sales cap \$30,000. No license, permit, or registration required (only sales tax certificates from LA Dept of Revenue and local paris...
FOOD STORAGE	Perishable ingredients must be refrigerated at 45°F or below. Finished shelf-stable products stored in food-safe containers.	Refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients; appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	Refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients; appropriate storage for shelf-stable products
POPULATION	4,127	8,895	18,677

State context — Louisiana cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
La. R.S. §40:4.13	30000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Most low-risk foods may be sold indirectly (to restaurants, retail stores), but breads, cakes, cookies, and pies specifically may NOT be sold to any retail business or individual for resale — they are direct-to-consumer only.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Louisiana cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/louisiana.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=98863>

State dept cottage food page: <https://ldh.la.gov/page/cottage-food-laws>

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

Questions about Tensas Parish? 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/louisiana/tensas-parish-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 Tensas Parish, Louisiana. 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/louisiana/tensas-parish-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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