

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Franklin County

Massachusetts · — · FIPS 25011 · Population 70,980 ·
Crosodo Index #2835*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
105 CMR 590.009(D)	Okay	—	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

Franklin County, Massachusetts — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

No pets allowed in kitchen during production (standard health code requirement)

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Massachusetts label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MASSACHUSETTS: FRANKLIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2835* · FIPS 25011 · —

Franklin County

Population 70,980 · State baseline: 105 CMR 590.009(D) · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen must be inspected and permitted annually. Only non-PHF foods allowed. No mail order, catering, or wholesale. Pickles, sauces, fermented foods require variance. No THC products.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No pets allowed in kitchen during production (standard health code requirement)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Massachusetts residential kitchen operations are regulated by local boards of health. In Franklin County, each town has its own board of health that issues permits. No county-wide permit; each municipality administers separately.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual inspection required for residential kitchen permit renewal)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen must be inspected and permitted annually. Only non-PHF foods allowed. No mail order, catering, or wholesale. Pickles, sauces, fermented foods require variance. No THC products.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No pets allowed in kitchen during production (standard health code requirement)
WATER SUPPLY	Approved potable water source
HANDWASHING	Dedicated handwashing sink with soap and single-use towels required
FOOD STORAGE	Proper food storage; no cross-contamination; sealed containers

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual inspection required for residential kitchen permit renewal
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Massachusetts residential kitchen operations are regulated by local boards of health. In Franklin County, each town has its own board of health that issues permits. No county-wide permit; each municipality administers separately.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; no mail order or internet sales (MA prohibits mail order under residential kitchen permit)
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at county level

Relevant county code

105 CMR 590.009(D); local board of health regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Massachusetts is an Okay-tier state with annual kitchen inspection required. Franklin County has no county government; towns have their own boards of health. No county-level cottage food coordination. Each municipality issues its own residential kitchen permit. No county seat listed. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.franklincounty.gov>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Franklin County	Berkshire County	Hampshire County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No pets allowed in kitchen during production (standard health code requirement)	Not explicitly prohibited by state regulation; individual town Boards of Health may impose additional requirements.	Pets typically excluded from kitchen during food production per Board of Health guidelines.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only; no mail order or internet sales (MA prohibits mail order under residential kitchen permit)	Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, and retail. Online sales allowed but no mail order. Catering is prohibited. All sales wi...	Direct sales and sales to retail stores allowed. No mail order or catering. Online sales limited. Each municipality's Board of Health rules...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen must be inspected and permitted annually. Only non-PHF foods allowe...	Massachusetts treats home kitchens as food establishments requiring a local Board of Health permit and kitchen inspection. No statewide sal...	Massachusetts uses a 'residential kitchen' model: home kitchens are treated as food establishments requiring a local Board of Health permit...
FOOD STORAGE	Proper food storage; no cross-contamination; sealed containers	Non-potentially hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration. Stored in food-safe containers.	Non-PHF foods only. No pickles, sauces, fermented foods, or items requiring variance.
POPULATION	70,980	128,763	153,931

State context — Massachusetts cottage food law

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

STATUTE

105 CMR 590.009(D)

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Recommended

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Yes

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — Massachusetts residential kitchens are treated as food establishments, so permitted operators may sell at any venue within the state including restaurants and retail stores, without the wholesale restriction that most cottage food laws impose. Mail order and catering are prohibited. Local boards of health administer permits and may impose additional restrictions.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/105-CMR-59000-state-sanitary-code-chapter-x>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

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

Questions about Franklin 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/massachusetts/franklin-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 Franklin County, Massachusetts. 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/massachusetts/franklin-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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