

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Etowah County, Alabama?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Conditional

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

ALABAMA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Alabama permits PDF](#)[Alabama cottage food law page](#)[Alabama Department of Public Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Etowah County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Etowah County, Alabama. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Conditional

LOCAL HEALTH

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

CONTINUE ONLINE

Alabama permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/alabama.pdf>

Alabama cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/alabama>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/alabama/etowah-county>

Etowah County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/alabama/etowah-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Alabama registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.

Alabama permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/alabama.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/alabama

Alabama Department of Public Health: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

Statute: [Ala. Code §22-20-5.1](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Gadsden and Etowah County municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Etowah County cottage food ordinance identified beyond the state county health department approval requirement.

Health

Yes. Etowah County Health Department must approve applications. Requires proof of training, sample label, product list. Fees and approval vary by county.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale or indirect sales. Online and in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

A commercial kitchen is a food establishment. Alabama cottage food is not a food-service permit. A commissary, restaurant, or shared kitchen is a food establishment permitted by the county health department. Ask that office for the food-facility application, not the cottage-food form.

Official source: [ADPH food protection](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.etowahcounty.gov>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.etowahcounty.gov>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

Etowah County and nearby places

Regulation	Etowah County	Marshall County	St. Clair County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation practices apply.	No specific state restriction, but county health approval process may review kitchen conditions.	No specific state restriction; county health approval may review kitchen conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale or indirect sales. Online and in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.	Direct sales only. In-state online sales and shipping allowed per 2021 amendment. Home pickup, farmers markets, and events permitted.	Direct sales only. In-state online sales and shipping allowed. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Alabama requires state-approved food safety course completion and approval from the local county health department before selling. Non-pote...	Alabama cottage food law (§22-20-5.1, 2021 amendment): no sales cap, direct sales only (no wholesale). Must complete state-approved food sa...	Alabama cottage food law (§22-20-5.1, 2021 amendment): no sales cap, direct sales only. Must complete state-approved food safety course and...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Meat, poultry, fish, all perishable/temperature-controlled foods, low-acid canned goods, juices prohi...	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only; must prevent contamination.	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only.
POPULATION	103,348	97,923	91,719

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Alabama permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/alabama.pdf

Alabama cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/alabama

Etowah County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/alabama/etowah-county