

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Houston 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 Houston County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Houston 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/houston-county>

Houston County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/alabama/houston-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. Dothan and Houston County may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Houston County cottage food ordinance identified beyond the state county health department approval requirement.

Health

Yes. Houston County Health Department must approve applications before selling. The county health department reviews the application, proof of training, sample label, and product list. Fees and approval process vary by county.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale or indirect sales. Online and in-state shipping permitted (2021). 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.houstoncountyalabama.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.houstoncountyalabama.gov>

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

Houston County and nearby places

Regulation	Houston County	Dale County	Geneva 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.	Not explicitly restricted by state law; standard sanitation applies.	No specific state restriction; standard sanitation best practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale or indirect sales. Online and in-state shipping permitted (2021). Out-of-state shipping prohibi...	Sales allowed directly to consumers: in-person, phone, online, or by mail within Alabama. No consignment; no sale in licensed food establis...	Direct sales to consumers permitted in person, by phone, online, or via mail within Alabama. Delivery may be in person, by an agent, or by ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Conditional	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Alabama requires state-approved food safety course completion before selling and approval from the local county health department. Non-pote...	Must use primary residence kitchen with residential appliances. Must complete state-approved food safety course. Products sold only directl...	Must complete a state-approved food safety course (e.g., ACES course, \$25) before selling. Must file paperwork (food safety course certific...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Meat, poultry, fish, all perishable/temperature-controlled foods, low-acid canned goods, juices prohi...	Products must remain non-potentially hazardous.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must be shelf-stable and not require time/temperature control for safety.
POPULATION	107,040	49,455	26,647

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

Houston County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/alabama/houston-county