

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Highlands County, Florida?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT	HOME OCCUPATION	BUSINESS LICENSE	SALES CAP
No	Conditional	Varies	\$250,000 / year

FLORIDA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Florida permits PDF](#)[Florida cottage food law page](#)[Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services cottage food program](#)[Statute: Fla. Stat. §500.80](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Highlands County, Florida. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$250,000 / year

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Conditional

LOCAL HEALTH

Upon-complaint

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

[Florida permits PDF →](#)

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

[Florida cottage food law page →](#)

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

[Permit page for this place →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/florida/highlands-county>

[Highlands County cottage food law page →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/states/florida/highlands-county>

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

Where to file

State

Florida registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Florida prohibits wholesale sales but allows online, mail-order, and in-person sales including delivery to consumers; state law preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations.

Florida permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/florida.pdf](https://www.crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/florida.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/florida](https://www.crosodo.com/states/florida)

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

Statute: [Fla. Stat. §500.80](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Florida state preemption (§500.80(6)) prevents local governments from restricting cottage food operations. However, home-based business rules under §559.955 may still apply in Highlands County. Highlands County may have general home occupation/zoning rules applicable to the business operation aspect. No specific Highlands County cottage food restriction identified.

Health

Upon-complaint. Inspections may only occur upon receipt of a complaint (§500.80(7)). No routine inspections.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales (except wholesale) permitted. \$250,000 annual sales cap.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

DBPR or the local health department licenses food. Florida public food service is typically DBPR Hotels and Restaurants or the county health department, depending on the operation. Cottage food is a separate exemption. Ask which office licenses the kitchen you rent.

Official source: [Florida DBPR Hotels and Restaurants](#)

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

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

Highlands County and nearby places

Regulation	Highlands County	Okeechobee County	DeSoto County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	False
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated	No state or county-specific rule for cottage food
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint only
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Must comply with DeSoto County signage ordinances
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales (except wholesale) permitted. \$250,000 annu...	Sales allowed from residence, online, by mail-order, at farmers markets, flea markets, and roadside stands. Mail delivery explicitly permit...	Direct-to-consumer; online/mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/consignm...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Likely; verify with DeSoto County Building & Zoning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Likely; DeSoto County local business tax receipt; contact DeSoto County Tax Collector
RESTRICTIONS	Florida uses a broad non-TCS standard — any food that does not require time/temperature control for safety is allowed. Annual sales cap of ...	Must be produced in operator's home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Product...	—
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Foods requiring temperature control for safety (meat, dairy requiring refrigeration, custard-filled pastries, raw sprou...	Ingredients and finished products must be stored in the single-family domestic residence; no garage/shed/barn storage	Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage
POPULATION	102,339	39,870	34,258

More pages for this place

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

Florida permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/florida.pdf

Florida cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/florida

Highlands County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/florida/highlands-county