

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

# Can I sell from my kitchen in Atkinson County, Georgia?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-06.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**No**

HOME OCCUPATION

**Conditional**

BUSINESS LICENSE

**Varies**

SALES CAP

**—**

GEORGIA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Georgia permits PDF](#)[Georgia cottage food law page](#)[Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. \(eff. July 2025\); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

## What you need

Atkinson County, Georgia. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

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.

### HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

**Georgia no longer sells a state cottage-food license.** HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) removed the Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage-food license and fee. What may still apply is city or county occupational tax and zoning. This packet keeps the GDA program page so you can read the current state rules.

Official source: [Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage food](#)

### CONTINUE ONLINE

[Georgia permits PDF →](#)

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

[Georgia cottage food law page →](#)

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

[Permit page for this place →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/georgia/atkinson-county>

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

<https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/atkinson-county>

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

## Where to file

### State

Georgia registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.

Georgia permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf)

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

Georgia Department of Agriculture: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

Statute: [O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. \(eff. July 2025\)](#); prior: [GA R&R 40-7-19](#)

### Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Atkinson County and the City of Pearson to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.

### Health

Upon-complaint. Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon receipt of a consumer complaint, foodborne illness outbreak, or public health emergency.

Health: <https://dph.georgia.gov/atkinson-county>

### Business license

Varies

### Pickup / delivery

Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. No wholesale distribution through intermediaries. Events and farmers markets permitted.

### If you rent a commissary kitchen

**A commissary is a food-service permit, not occupational tax.** Georgia no longer sells a GDA cottage license (HB 398). A rented kitchen is still a food-service establishment permitted by the county health department or the Department of Public Health. Occupational tax is not that permit.

Official source: [Georgia DPH food service](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://dph.georgia.gov/atkinson-county>

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.

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**SOURCES**

<https://dph.georgia.gov/atkinson-county>

<https://www.atkinsoncounty.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

## Atkinson County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Atkinson County                                                                                                                                | Clinch County                                                                                                                                  | Lanier County                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated                                                                                  | Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated                                                                                  | No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.                              |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all pe... | Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all pe... | Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; ... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Must be produced in operator's primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify... | Must be produced in operator's primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify... | Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. ... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence                                                       | Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence                                                       | All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.                                                         |
| POPULATION                 | 8,265                                                                                                                                          | 6,713                                                                                                                                          | 9,964                                                                                                                                          |

## More pages for this place

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

Georgia permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf)

Georgia cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/georgia](https://crosodo.com/states/georgia)

Atkinson County cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/georgia/atkinson-county](https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/atkinson-county)