

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Dougherty County, Georgia?

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	Varies	Varies	—

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 Dougherty County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Dougherty 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

Varies

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/dougherty-county>

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

<https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/dougherty-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

State law page: 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

Varies. Dougherty County and the City of Albany may have home occupation ordinances. No Dougherty County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Dougherty County Planning and Development or City of Albany planning office.

Health

Upon-complaint. Under HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025), inspections are complaint-based only. No routine pre-operational inspection required.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Since July 2025: direct and indirect sales permitted including wholesale, retail, online, restaurants, and interstate. All channels now open under HB 398.

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://www.doughertycounty.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.doughertycounty.gov>

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

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

Dougherty County and nearby places

Regulation	Dougherty County	Lee County	Mitchell County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in revised law; general sanitation expected.	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.	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	Since July 2025: direct and indirect sales permitted including wholesale, retail, online, restaurants, and interstate. All channels now ope...	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; ...	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad range of non-PHF foods allowed including bake...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. ...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. ...
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirements beyond general food safety practices.	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.
POPULATION	85,038	32,968	21,634

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

Georgia cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/georgia

Dougherty County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/georgia/dougherty-county