

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Brown County, Illinois?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT	HOME OCCUPATION	BUSINESS LICENSE	SALES CAP
Yes	Conditional	Varies	—

ILLINOIS RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Illinois permits PDF](#)

[Illinois cottage food law page](#)

[Illinois Department of Public Health cottage food program](#)

[Statute: 410 ILCS 625/4 \(Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4\)](#)

NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

What you need

Brown County, Illinois. 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

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Conditional

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

Illinois permits PDF →

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

Illinois cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/illinois/brown-county>

Brown County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/illinois/brown-county>

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

Where to file

State

Illinois registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Illinois prohibits sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale; direct in-state sales are allowed anywhere including home, online, farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.

Illinois permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/illinois.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/illinois

Illinois Department of Public Health: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

Statute: [410 ILCS 625/4 \(Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4\)](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Brown County is a small, rural western Illinois county (pop. ~6,600). No specific Brown County home occupation zoning ordinance was found in research. Illinois state law generally preempts contradictory local restrictions on cottage food sales. Operators should register with the Brown County Health Department and confirm whether any county zoning permits are required for home-based food businesses in unincorporated areas or within Mount Sterling city limits.

Health

Upon-complaint. IDPH or local health department may inspect upon complaint. Routine inspections not required for registered cottage food operators.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Illinois cottage food allows direct sales; home pickup is permitted. Online sales with local delivery permitted for non-perishables. No out-of-state shipping.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

Local health departments license food facilities. Illinois cottage food registers with the local health department. A commissary or restaurant is a retail food establishment, also at that department, on a different permit.

Official source: [IDPH food safety](#)

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

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

Brown County and nearby places

Regulation	Brown County	Schuyler County	Cass County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	—	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	—	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state statute on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.	—	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	—	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	—	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	—	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Illinois cottage food allows direct sales; home pickup is permitted. Online sales with local delivery permitted for non-perishables. No out...	—	Direct sales to consumers only (in person, at farmers markets, online orders). In-state shipping of non-perishable items permitted within l...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	—	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	—	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must operate from primary residence. Registration required with local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification...	—	Must register with local health department (Cass County Health Department or adjacent county health dept if none) for up to \$50/year. Certi...
FOOD STORAGE	Products stored at primary residence; safe food handling practices required per CFPM training.	—	Proper storage of shelf-stable and non-TCS foods; acidified foods require pH documentation and food safety plan; fermented foods have addit...
POPULATION	6,618	6,879	12,955

More pages for this place

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

Illinois permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/illinois.pdf

Illinois cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/illinois

Brown County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/illinois/brown-county