

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

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

What you need

DeKalb 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

Yes

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/dekalb-county>

DeKalb County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/illinois/dekalb-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. Sycamore and other municipalities in DeKalb County (including DeKalb city, home to Northern Illinois University) may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific DeKalb County cottage food ordinance identified.

Health

Upon-complaint. Complaint-triggered. DeKalb County Health Department administers registration.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct in-state sales. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.

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.dekalbcounty.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.dekalbcounty.gov>

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

DeKalb County and nearby places

Regulation	DeKalb County	LaSalle County	Kendall County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation applies.	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation practices apply.	Not specifically prohibited; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct in-state sales. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.	Direct in-state sales permitted. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items within Illinois. Out-of-state shipping prohibited. Home pick...	Direct sales statewide. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Illinois 'prohibited list' approach: operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Registration with local health departm...	Illinois uses a 'prohibited list' approach — operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Must register with the local h...	Must register with local health department (Kendall County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-prohibited foods only. Meat/poultry/fish/seafood, custard/cream pies with hazardous fillings, garlic in oil (unless acidified), low-aci...	Non-prohibited foods only. Acidified/fermented foods require food safety plan and pH test documentation.	Shelf-stable non-perishable products required for shipped items. Many categories allowed for direct in-state sales. Stored in sealed food-s...
POPULATION	100,686	109,495	132,795

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

DeKalb County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/illinois/dekalb-county