

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Lake County, Indiana?

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	—

INDIANA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Indiana permits PDF](#)[Indiana cottage food law page](#)[Indiana State Department of Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Lake County, Indiana. 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.

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Indiana permits PDF →](#)

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

[Indiana cottage food law page →](#)

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

[Permit page for this place →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/indiana/lake-county>

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

<https://crosodo.com/states/indiana/lake-county>

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

Where to file

State

Indiana registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale are prohibited; producers may sell at events, farmers markets, home, online, and roadside stands only.

Indiana permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/indiana.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/indiana

Indiana State Department of Health: [https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

Statute: [Ind. Code §16-42-5.2](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Indiana 2022 HEA 1149 preempts local governments from imposing licensing or inspection requirements beyond state law for home-based vendor operations. However, general zoning/home occupation permits may still apply. Lake County and its cities (Gary, Hammond, Merrillville, Crown Point, etc.) may have home occupation zoning provisions. Operators should check with local municipality for any zoning-related home occupation permit requirements.

Health

Upon-complaint. No pre-operational inspection; Indiana state law (2022 HEA 1149) preempts local governments from adding licensing or inspection requirements

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales to consumers only within Indiana: home, farmers markets, events, online. No annual sales cap. No wholesale to stores or restaurants.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

Local health departments license retail food. Indiana home-based vendor rules do not replace a retail food establishment permit. A commissary is licensed by the local health department.

Official source: [ISDH food protection](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.lakecountyin.org>

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.lakecountyin.org>

[https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/indiana/>

Lake County and nearby places

Regulation	Lake County	Porter County	Jasper County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state cottage food pet restriction	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	Not specified in state statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales to consumers only within Indiana: home, farmers markets, events, online. No annual sales cap. No wholesale to stores or restau...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery. No sales cap.	Products may be sold in-person, by telephone, or via the internet, and delivered to the end consumer in person, by mail, or by third-party ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-potentially hazardous (non-PHF) foods only. No registration required. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and must be p...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Direct sales only; no wholesale or interstate sales. Food handler certification (ANSI-accredited) req...	Must prepare food in the individual's primary residential home kitchen (or permanent structure on the same property). Only non-TCS (non-tim...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods	Shelf-stable storage for non-PHF products.	Must use proper sanitary procedures; containers and packaging must be sanitized before use.
POPULATION	497,682	173,355	33,478

More pages for this place

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

Indiana permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/indiana.pdf

Indiana cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/indiana

Lake County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/indiana/lake-county