

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Woodbury County, Iowa?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Conditional

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

IOWA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Iowa permits PDF](#)[Iowa cottage food law page](#)[Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals cottage food program](#)[Statute: Iowa Code §137F.1 / §137F.20](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Woodbury County, Iowa. 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

No

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

Iowa permits PDF →

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

Iowa cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/iowa/woodbury-county>

Woodbury County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/iowa/woodbury-county>

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

Where to file

State

Iowa registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Cottage food direct-to-consumer sales only; however, a separate Home Food Processing Establishment (HFPE) license allows indirect retail and wholesale sales of almost any food including perishables.

Iowa permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/iowa.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/iowa

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals: <https://dia.iowa.gov/food-safety/home-food-establishment>

Statute: [Iowa Code §137F.1](#) / [§137F.20](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Sioux City and Woodbury County municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements. Iowa state law (§137F.20(1)) explicitly prohibits local governments from adding restrictions to cottage food operations. However, local zoning/home occupation rules may apply for the business operation aspect.

Health

No. No routine inspections for cottage food exemption. HFPE pathway has separate inspection requirements.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer sales only under the cottage food exemption. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. HFPE pathway allows indirect retail sales.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

DIA licenses food establishments. Iowa cottage food is an exemption. A commissary or food establishment is licensed by the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (or the local board of health where they inspect).

Official source: [Iowa DIAL food establishments](#)

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

<https://dia.iowa.gov/food-safety/home-food-establishment>

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/137F.pdf>

Woodbury County and nearby places

Regulation	Woodbury County	Plymouth County	Crawford County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction for cottage food exemption.	No specific pet restriction in Iowa cottage food law.	No state or county-specific rule found; good practice is to exclude pets from food prep areas.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only under the cottage food exemption. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. HFPE pathway allows indirect...	Direct sales only under cottage food exemption. Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, roadside stands, special events, online (direct to c...	Direct-to-consumer sales only under the cottage food exemption. Customers may pick up at home, or operator may sell at farmers markets, roa...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	No	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	No	No
RESTRICTIONS	Iowa's cottage food exemption (§137F.20): No license required, no sales cap, direct sales only. Virtually all non-TCS foods permitted, incl...	Iowa cottage food law (§137F.20, amended 2022 by HF 2431) allows sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods directly to consumers from a private re...	No license, registration, or inspection required under Iowa cottage food exemption (Iowa Code §137F.20). Allowed non-TCS foods include bake...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods allowed. Acidified foods allowed if pH-tested (pH ≤4.6) or water activity tested (aw ≤0.85) with production date on label. Pe...	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) shelf-stable foods only. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas) allowed if each batch is pH-te...	Cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; TCS foods not permitted under the cottage food exemption.
POPULATION	105,526	25,621	17,426

More pages for this place

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

Iowa permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/iowa.pdf

Iowa cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/iowa

Woodbury County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/iowa/woodbury-county