

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

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

What you need

Worth 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

Conditional

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/worth-county>

Worth County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/iowa/worth-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. Worth County is a small rural Iowa county. Iowa counties typically regulate home occupations through their zoning ordinances as accessory residential uses, requiring operations to be secondary to residential use, conducted by a resident, with no exterior commercial evidence, and limited to a portion of the home. No specific Worth County zoning ordinance text found in research; county-specific rules should be verified with Worth County Planning & Zoning or the Board of Supervisors in Northwood.

Health

No. No routine inspection. DIAL may investigate upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Iowa cottage food law requires direct sales from producer to consumer. Home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No wholesale or restaurant 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.worthcountyiowa.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.worthcountyiowa.gov>

<https://dial.iowa.gov/licenses/food-establishments-hotels/cottage-food-law>

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

Worth County and nearby places

Regulation	Worth County	Mitchell County	Winnebago County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state or county rule, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during food production.	No specific pet restriction in Iowa cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in Iowa cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Iowa cottage food law requires direct sales from producer to consumer. Home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No who...	Direct sales only under cottage food exemption. Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, roadside stands, special events, online (direct to c...	Direct sales only under cottage food exemption. Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, roadside stands, special events, online (direct to c...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	No	No
RESTRICTIONS	Must operate from primary residence. No license or inspection required for cottage food. Only non-TCS foods. Direct sales to end consumer o...	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...	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...
FOOD STORAGE	Products stored at primary residence; safe handling to prevent adulteration.	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) shelf-stable foods only. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas) allowed if each batch is pH-te...	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) shelf-stable foods only. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas) allowed if each batch is pH-te...
POPULATION	7,599	10,537	10,704

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

Worth County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/iowa/worth-county