

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Penobscot County, Maine?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Conditional

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

MAINE RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Maine permits PDF](#)[Maine cottage food law page](#)[Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry cottage food program](#)[Statute: 7 M.R.S.A. §282 \(Food Sovereignty Act\)](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Penobscot County, Maine. 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

Yes

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

Maine permits PDF →

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

Maine cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/maine/penobscot-county>

Penobscot County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/maine/penobscot-county>

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

Where to file

State

Maine registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Yes. Under the statewide Home Food Processor License, producers may sell at any venue including restaurants, retail stores, farmers markets, and online, with no sales limit; indirect wholesale and retail channels are allowed once licensed and kitchen-inspected.

Maine permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maine.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/maine

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/qar/inspection/home_food_processor.shtml

Statute: [7 M.R.S.A. §282 \(Food Sovereignty Act\)](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Penobscot County municipalities may have home occupation permit requirements. Bangor and other cities each have their own zoning rules. Farmers market vendors also need a Mobile Food Vendor license at the state level.

Health

Yes. Statewide Home Food Processor License requires kitchen inspection by DACF Division of Quality Assurance and Regulations. Food sovereignty ordinance pathway requires no inspection.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Statewide license: sales from home, at farmers markets (with Mobile Food Vendor license), online, direct-to-consumer, and some retail. Food sovereignty ordinance: direct producer-to-consumer transactions exempt from most regulations.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

Health inspection licenses eating and lodging. Maine cottage food is separate from an eating-place license. A commissary is typically licensed as an eating place or food establishment by Health Inspection.

Official source: [Maine eating and lodging](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.penobscot-county.net>

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.penobscot-county.net>

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/qar/inspection/home_food_processor.shtml

<https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/7/title7sec282.html>

Penobscot County and nearby places

Regulation	Penobscot County	Aroostook County	Hancock County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Under statewide license: 'uncontrolled children' prohibited in kitchen during production; no specific pet restriction listed but good pract...	Not specified in state law	Under statewide license pathway: 'uncontrolled children' prohibited in kitchen during production. Standard sanitation applies for pets.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Statewide license: sales from home, at farmers markets (with Mobile Food Vendor license), online, direct-to-consumer, and some retail. Food...	Direct and indirect sales allowed; no out-of-state sales	Under statewide license: sales at farm, farm stands, farmers markets (with additional license), and home direct sales. Under food sovereign...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Maine has two pathways: (1) Statewide Home Food Processor License — requires license, kitchen inspection by DACF, and well/septic testing i...	Kitchen inspection required for home food processor license. Registration required. Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales allowed. Perishab...	Two pathways: (1) Statewide Home Food Processor License requires kitchen inspection by DACF, well/septic testing if not on public systems, ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods for statewide license. Acidified foods need lab approval. Almost anything allowed under food sovereignty ordinan...	Appropriate storage; no perishable items under home processor pathway	Under statewide license: non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Under food sovereignty: broader including potentially hazardous foods if sold ...
POPULATION	152,640	67,237	55,851

More pages for this place

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

Maine permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maine.pdf

Maine cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maine

Penobscot County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maine/penobscot-county