

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Berkshire County, Massachusetts?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

SALES CAP

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MASSACHUSETTS RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Massachusetts permits PDF](#)[Massachusetts cottage food law page](#)[Massachusetts Department of Public Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: 105 CMR 590.009\(D\)](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Berkshire County, Massachusetts. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Yes

LOCAL HEALTH

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

This is a city or town permit, not a county one. Massachusetts abolished county government in most of the state. A residential kitchen permit is issued by the city or town Board of Health (for example Cambridge, Lowell, or Newton), not by the county. This packet still includes the state cottage-food pages. Call the Board of Health for the city or town on your address.

Official source: [Mass.gov residential kitchen permit](https://www.mass.gov/residential-kitchen-permit)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Massachusetts permits PDF →

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

Massachusetts cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/massachusetts/berkshire-county>

Berkshire County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/massachusetts/berkshire-county>

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

Where to file

State

Massachusetts registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Yes. Massachusetts residential kitchens are treated as food establishments, so permitted operators may sell at any venue within the state including restaurants and retail stores, without the wholesale restriction that most cottage food laws impose. Mail order and catering are prohibited. Local boards of health administer permits and may impose additional restrictions.

Massachusetts permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/massachusetts.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/massachusetts

Massachusetts Department of Public Health: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

Statute: [105 CMR 590.009\(D\)](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Yes. In Massachusetts, the residential kitchen permit IS the local Board of Health permit; no separate home occupation permit from planning typically required for cottage food. However, Berkshire County municipalities (Pittsfield, North Adams, Great Barrington, Lenox, Stockbridge, etc.) each administer their own residential kitchen permits through their local Board of Health. Each town sets its own fees and may impose additional requirements. County seat field is blank in input data (Berkshire County has no county seat in the traditional sense; Pittsfield is the county seat).

Health

Yes. Home kitchen inspection required by local Board of Health before permit issued.

Business license

Yes

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, and retail. Online sales allowed but no mail order. Catering is prohibited. All sales within Massachusetts.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

A residential kitchen permit is not a food-establishment commissary. Massachusetts residential kitchens are treated as food establishments by the city or town Board of Health. A rented commissary is a different food establishment at that board, not a home kitchen.

Official source: [Mass.gov retail food](#)

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

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

<https://www.mass.gov/regulations/105-CMR-59000-state-sanitary-code-chapter-x>

Berkshire County and nearby places

Regulation	Berkshire County	Hampshire County	Franklin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not explicitly prohibited by state regulation; individual town Boards of Health may impose additional requirements.	Pets typically excluded from kitchen during food production per Board of Health guidelines.	No pets allowed in kitchen during production (standard health code requirement)
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, and retail. Online sales allowed but no mail order. Catering is prohibited. All sales wi...	Direct sales and sales to retail stores allowed. No mail order or catering. Online sales limited. Each municipality's Board of Health rules...	Direct sales only; no mail order or internet sales (MA prohibits mail order under residential kitchen permit)
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Massachusetts treats home kitchens as food establishments requiring a local Board of Health permit and kitchen inspection. No statewide sal...	Massachusetts uses a 'residential kitchen' model: home kitchens are treated as food establishments requiring a local Board of Health permit...	Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen must be inspected and permitted annually. Only non-PHF foods allowe...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration. Stored in food-safe containers.	Non-PHF foods only. No pickles, sauces, fermented foods, or items requiring variance.	Proper food storage; no cross-contamination; sealed containers
POPULATION	128,763	153,931	70,980

More pages for this place

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

Massachusetts permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/massachusetts.pdf

Massachusetts cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/massachusetts

Berkshire County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/massachusetts/berkshire-county