

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies by city

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

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

What you need

Worcester 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

Varies by city

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.

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/worcester-county>

Worcester County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/massachusetts/worcester-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

Varies by city. Each of Worcester County's 60+ municipalities has its own Board of Health and may have separate home occupation/zoning requirements. City of Worcester Board of Health: 25 Meade St, Worcester MA. Contact specific town/city Board of Health for permit process. Massachusetts has no uniform home occupation permit requirement for cottage food at state level.

Health

Yes. Initial kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Subsequent inspections may occur at Board of Health discretion.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

No statewide cap. Sales allowed from home, at events, farmers markets, and to retail stores. Mail order prohibited. Catering prohibited under residential kitchen permit. Wholesale operations may not be conducted under residential kitchen permit.

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.worcestercounty.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.worcestercounty.org>

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

Worcester County and nearby places

Regulation	Worcester County	Norfolk County	Hampden County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Standard sanitation; pets excluded from food preparation areas during production is typically required	Pets typically excluded from food preparation areas	Pets should not be present during food production; standard food safety GMP applies.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	No statewide cap. Sales allowed from home, at events, farmers markets, and to retail stores. Mail order prohibited. Catering prohibited und...	Sales from home, events, farmers markets, and retail stores permitted. Mail order prohibited. Catering prohibited.	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted at farmers markets, events, and from home with permit. Mail order prohibited.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city	Varies by city	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Massachusetts uses a residential kitchen model — home kitchen treated as food establishment requiring a local Board of Health permit and ki...	Each of Norfolk County's 28 municipalities administers its own Board of Health residential kitchen permit. Kitchen inspection required. No ...	Massachusetts requires a Retail Residential Kitchen permit issued by the local Board of Health under 105 CMR 590. The kitchen must be inspe...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per residential kitchen permit requirements	Standard food storage per residential kitchen permit	Non-TCS shelf-stable storage required. No refrigerated finished products permitted under retail residential kitchen permit.
POPULATION	858,898	722,112	464,575

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

Worcester County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/massachusetts/worcester-county