

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Howard County, Missouri?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

MISSOURI RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Missouri permits PDF](#)[Missouri cottage food law page](#)[Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services cottage food program](#)[Statute: Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Howard County, Missouri. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Yes

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

Missouri permits PDF →

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

Missouri cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/missouri/howard-county>

Howard County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/missouri/howard-county>

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

Where to file

State

Missouri registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Under §196.298, sales must be directly to consumers from the producer's home. Events, farmers markets, restaurants, retail stores, and roadside stands are not permitted under this law. Internet/online sales are allowed but only if both the producer and buyer are located in Missouri. Local health departments are explicitly prohibited from regulating the production of food at cottage food operations. A separate Missouri statute (individual stands law) allows sales at events and roadside stands in counties that have adopted it, permitting most other nonperishable foods.

Missouri permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/missouri.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/missouri

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services: <https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

Statute: [Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Yes. Howard County typically requires a home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Business must be secondary to residential use. Common conditions: no on-site employees beyond household members, no external signage, limited customer visits, no hazardous materials. Missouri Cottage Law (§196.298) prohibits local health departments from regulating production, but zoning/home occupation permits are a separate local requirement. Many rural Missouri counties have limited formal zoning in unincorporated areas; verify with the Fayette county courthouse.

Health

No. No routine inspections under cottage law. Health departments may investigate foodborne illness reports.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales at home and in-state delivery. Farmers markets, online sales with in-state delivery allowed since 2022. No interstate sales.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

A commissary is a food establishment. Cottage food is not. Missouri cottage food is not a food-service establishment. A rented kitchen is permitted by the local health department or DHSS.

Official source: [Missouri DHSS food safety](#)

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

<https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/pdf/home-based-kitchen-food-prod-guidance.pdf>

<https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

Howard County and nearby places

Regulation	Howard County	Chariton County	Cooper County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No explicit state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No explicit state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	No	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales at home and in-state delivery. Farmers markets, online sales with in-state delivery allowed since 2022. No interstate sales.	Direct sales at home and in-state delivery. Farmers markets, online sales with in-state delivery allowed since 2022. No interstate sales.	Direct sales at home and in-state delivery. Farmers markets, online sales with in-state delivery allowed since 2022. No interstate sales.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Missouri Cottage Law is narrow: only nonperishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs/mixes are permitted. All other foods r...	Missouri Cottage Law is narrow: only nonperishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs/mixes are permitted. All other foods r...	Missouri Cottage Law is narrow: only nonperishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs/mixes are permitted. All other foods r...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods, jams, jellies, dried herbs.	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods, jams, jellies, dried herbs.	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods, jams, jellies, dried herbs.
POPULATION	10,142	7,417	16,893

More pages for this place

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

Missouri permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/missouri.pdf

Missouri cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/missouri

Howard County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/missouri/howard-county