

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Essex County, New Jersey?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT	HOME OCCUPATION	BUSINESS LICENSE	SALES CAP
Yes	Yes	Varies	\$50,000 / year

NEW JERSEY RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[New Jersey permits PDF](#)

[New Jersey cottage food law page](#)

[New Jersey Department of Health cottage food program](#)

[Statute: N.J.A.C. 8:24-11 et seq.](#)

NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

What you need

Essex County, New Jersey. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$50,000 / year

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Yes

LOCAL HEALTH

No

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

New Jersey permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/new-jersey.pdf>

New Jersey cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/new-jersey>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/new-jersey/essex-county>

Essex County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/new-jersey/essex-county>

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

Where to file

State

New Jersey registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Cottage food products may only be delivered or relinquished at: the operator's home (not for onsite consumption), the consumer's NJ home, a NJ farmers market or other permitted NJ location. Products cannot be sold to wholesale establishments, retail food establishments, or shipped out of state. Online and phone order-taking is allowed as an ancillary activity, but physical delivery must occur in New Jersey person-to-person or at permitted locations. Charitable bake sales remain exempt under separate provisions.

New Jersey permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/new-jersey.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/new-jersey

New Jersey Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/phfpp/cottage-food-operator/>

Statute: [N.J.A.C. 8:24-11 et seq.](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Yes. Local zoning board approval required before state permit application. Essex County has 22 municipalities including Newark, Montclair, Bloomfield, and others — each with its own zoning code. Contact the applicable municipal zoning board. Newark and other densely urbanized municipalities may have specific home occupation restrictions.

Health

No. No routine inspection. Health authority may inspect upon complaint.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer only. Online orders allowed with in-person delivery. No mail/carrier delivery. No wholesale. \$50,000 annual cap.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

Local health departments license retail food. New Jersey cottage food is a state permit for home kitchens. A commissary or restaurant is a retail food establishment licensed by the local health department. Wholesale is a separate CEOHS license.

Official source: [NJ local health departments](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.essexcountynj.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.essexcountynj.org>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cottagefood/>

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/new-jersey/>

Essex County and nearby places

Regulation	Essex County	Bergen County	Hudson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified; standard sanitation applies	Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only. Online orders allowed with in-person delivery. No mail/carrier delivery. No wholesale. \$50,000 annual cap.	Direct-to-consumer sales only. Online orders allowed but delivery must be in-person (no mail or third-party carrier). Sales may occur at ho...	Direct-to-consumer only. Online orders with in-person delivery. No mail/carrier. No wholesale. \$50,000 annual cap.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be operator's private home kitchen. State permit required (\$100, 2-year). Food Protection Manager certification required. Local zoning...	Must be operator's private home kitchen. Production must not occur in a rented or commercial kitchen. State permit (\$100, 2-year) required ...	Must be operator's private home kitchen. State permit required (\$100, 2-year). Food Protection Manager certification required. Local zoning...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per N.J.A.C. 8:24-11	Standard food storage practices per N.J.A.C. 8:24-11	Standard food storage per N.J.A.C. 8:24-11
POPULATION	853,374	953,243	712,029

More pages for this place

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

New Jersey permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/new-jersey.pdf

New Jersey cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/new-jersey

Essex County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/new-jersey/essex-county