

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Catawba County, North Carolina?

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

—

NORTH CAROLINA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[North Carolina permits PDF](#)

[North Carolina cottage food law page](#)

[North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services cottage food program](#)

[Statute: 02 NCAC 9C.0307](#)

NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

What you need

Catawba County, North Carolina. 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

North Carolina permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/north-carolina.pdf>

North Carolina cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/north-carolina/catawba-county>

Catawba County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/catawba-county>

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

Where to file

State

North Carolina registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Yes. Home processors may sell to retail stores, restaurants, and directly to consumers. Sales at farmers markets are permitted. Labels are required for wholesale and packaged self-service retail; direct hand-to-consumer sales (e.g., from home or at events) may be exempt from affixed labels if ingredient info is available on request. NC requires annual home kitchen inspection, which is unusual among no-cap states.

North Carolina permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/north-carolina.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

Statute: [02 NCAC 9C.0307](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Catawba County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. NCDA&CS Home Processor registration is state-level. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.

Health

Yes. Annual inspection by NCDA&CS inspector required before permit issuance and annually thereafter.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales and indirect sales allowed (no sales cap). Permitted venues: farm, farm stand, farmers market, other direct-to-consumer and some retail channels. No sales requiring refrigeration.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

NCDA or the local health department, depending on the food. North Carolina home processors register with NCDA. A commissary used as a food service kitchen is typically permitted by the local health department; a food manufacturing plant is NCDA. Ask the kitchen which license they operate under.

Official source: [NCDHHS food protection](#)

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

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-and-drug-protection/home-processor-inspections>

[http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2002%20-%20agriculture%20and%20consumer%20services/
chapter%2009%20-%20food%20and%20drug%20protection/subchapter%20c/02%20ncac%2009c%20.0307.pdf](http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2002%20-%20agriculture%20and%20consumer%20services/chapter%2009%20-%20food%20and%20drug%20protection/subchapter%20c/02%20ncac%2009c%20.0307.pdf)

Catawba County and nearby places

Regulation	Catawba County	Iredell County	Lincoln County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets in the home DISQUALIFY the applicant from a Home Processor permit. No pets allowed in the residence where cottage food is produced.	Pets in home disqualify applicant; no pets allowed in household during registration under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).	Any pets in the home at any time disqualify the applicant from operating a home-based food business under NC Home Processor program. This i...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and indirect sales allowed (no sales cap). Permitted venues: farm, farm stand, farmers market, other direct-to-consumer and so...	Direct sales allowed at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online and mail order permitted. No sales cap.	Sales allowed at farmers markets, from home, at events, to retail stores, and to restaurants after passing inspection. No interstate sales.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	North Carolina requires annual home kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS and registration (Home Processor permit). No sales cap. Allowed: shelf-st...	Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant. Only shelf-stable, low-ris...	North Carolina requires a home kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS before any sales. Pets (including indoor pets) disqualify the applicant entire...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated products only. Products in compliant packaging required.	Shelf-stable storage; products must not require refrigeration.	Storage plan for supplies, equipment, and finished product must be provided with application. Areas where materials, ingredients, and equip...
POPULATION	161,011	187,839	87,933

More pages for this place

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

North Carolina permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/north-carolina.pdf

North Carolina cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina

Catawba County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/catawba-county