

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**Yes**

HOME OCCUPATION

**Varies**

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

## What you need

Cherokee 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

**Varies**

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/cherokee-county>

**Cherokee County cottage food law page →**

<https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/cherokee-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](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/north-carolina.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/north-carolina](https://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

Varies. NC state program requires checking with local county planning/zoning department before starting. Cherokee County is the westernmost county in NC (Murphy area). Zoning ordinance governs unincorporated areas; Town of Murphy may have additional requirements. No Cherokee County-specific cottage food ordinances found via research.

### Health

Yes. Annual inspection by NCDA&CS Division of Food and Drug Protection required before registration is issued and annually thereafter.

### Business license

Varies

### Pickup / delivery

Direct sales permitted at home, farmers markets, roadside stands, online, restaurants, and retail stores within North Carolina.

### 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.cherokeecounty.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.

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**SOURCES**

<https://www.cherokeecounty.gov>

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

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

## Cherokee County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Cherokee County                                                                                                                                | Macon County                                                                                                                                   | Clay County                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | No pets allowed in the home at all — any pets in the home disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program.                         | No pets allowed in the home at all — presence of pet animals in the home disqualifies the applicant under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subp... | No pets allowed in the home at all — any pets in the home disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program.                         |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales permitted at home, farmers markets, roadside stands, online, restaurants, and retail stores within North Carolina.                | Sales permitted at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, home delivery, and online (within NC). Indirect sales to stores permit... | Direct sales permitted at home, farmers markets, roadside stands, online, restaurants, and retail stores within North Carolina.                |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Home kitchen must pass annual inspection by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely. Products must be shelf-stable; no ... | NC state law requires annual home kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely. Shelf-stable, low-risk... | Home kitchen must pass annual inspection by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely. Products must be shelf-stable; no ... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | All products must be shelf-stable. No refrigeration required for finished products. Ingredients and products stored per good manufacturing ... | Shelf-stable storage required; products must be non-refrigerated.                                                                              | All products must be shelf-stable. No refrigeration required for finished products. Ingredients and products stored per good manufacturing ... |
| POPULATION                 | 28,612                                                                                                                                         | 36,227                                                                                                                                         | 11,377                                                                                                                                         |

## 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](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/north-carolina.pdf)

North Carolina cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/north-carolina](https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina)

Cherokee County cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/cherokee-county](https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/cherokee-county)