

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Craven 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 Craven County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Craven 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/craven-county>

Craven County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/craven-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. Craven County and the City of New Bern may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Craven County cottage food ordinance identified beyond the state program requirements.

Health

Yes. Annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS Division of Food and Drug Protection is required. Initial inspection before registration and annual renewal inspections.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.

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.cravencounty.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.cravencounty.gov>

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

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

Craven County and nearby places

Regulation	Craven County	Carteret County	Lenoir County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 1...	Pet animals in the home disqualify the applicant entirely	Pet animals in the home DISQUALIFY the applicant entirely under NC home processor rules (per GMP requirements, 21 CFR 117 Subpart B). This ...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.	Direct-to-consumer sales; no wholesale or retail resale	Direct and indirect sales (retail, wholesale) permitted. Online sales and shipping within NC allowed.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted inc...	Home processor registration required with NC Dept of Agriculture. Initial kitchen inspection required. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. Shel...	Annual kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS required. No sales cap. Allowed: shelf-stable, low-risk non-refrigerated foods including baked goods, ...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, s...	Shelf-stable products; appropriate storage required	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated products only. Sauces and dehydrated foods may require pH or water activity testing.
POPULATION	101,098	68,353	55,071

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

Craven County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/craven-county