

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

What you need

Duplin 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

Conditional

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/duplin-county>

Duplin County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/duplin-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. Applicants must verify with Duplin County planning department that operating a food business is permitted at the property before applying for home processor inspection.

Health

Yes. Initial inspection required before production. Annual re-inspection applies.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Products may be sold at retail stores, restaurants, farmers markets, and directly to consumers.

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.duplincounty.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.duplincounty.gov>

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

<https://www.ncagr.gov/food-drug/fdpd-home-processing-app-pdf/download?attachment=>

Duplin County and nearby places

Regulation	Duplin County	Lenoir County	Sampson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets absolutely prohibited in the home at any time — disqualifies applicant from program.	Pet animals in the home DISQUALIFY the applicant entirely under NC home processor rules (per GMP requirements, 21 CFR 117 Subpart B). This ...	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...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Products may be sold at retail stores, restaurants, farmers markets, and directly to consumers.	Direct and indirect sales (retail, wholesale) permitted. Online sales and shipping within NC allowed.	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, home delivery, and online (within NC). Indirect sales to stores permitted under ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Home kitchen must pass NCDA&CS inspection before production begins. No pets allowed in home at any time. Kitchen must meet 21 CFR 117 Subpa...	Annual kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS required. No sales cap. Allowed: shelf-stable, low-risk non-refrigerated foods including baked goods, ...	NC state law requires annual home kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely. Shelf-stable, low-risk...
FOOD STORAGE	Only shelf-stable products; no refrigerated products permitted.	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated products only. Sauces and dehydrated foods may require pH or water activity testing.	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated products required.
POPULATION	49,312	55,071	59,317

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

Duplin County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/duplin-county