

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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	Yes	—

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

What you need

Forsyth 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

Yes

LOCAL HEALTH

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

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/forsyth-county>

Forsyth County cottage food law page →

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

Yes. Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Inspections Division requires a home occupation zoning permit (\$50 fee, 3-day review). Submit: floor plan, parking survey, application form, and affidavit. Conditions: no exterior evidence of business; max 25% of floor area; 3 parking spaces; max 1 outside employee + family; no display windows or sales rooms; one non-illuminated sign max 144 sq in. Home cooking, baking, and preserving are listed as permitted service occupations. Business license also required from City Revenue Office.

Health

Yes. Annual inspection of home kitchen by NCDA&CS required for registration renewal.

Business license

Yes

Pickup / delivery

Direct and indirect sales permitted (NC allows wholesale). Online and mail order permitted. Annual inspection required for all sales. No sales outside North Carolina without additional approval.

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.forsyth.cc>

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.forsyth.cc>

<https://www.cityofws.org/DocumentCenter/View/7018/Home-Occupations-Zoning-and-Permitting-Requirements-PDF>

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

Forsyth County and nearby places

Regulation	Forsyth County	Guilford County	Davidson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets anywhere in the home DISQUALIFY the applicant entirely from the NC Home Processor program.	Pets prohibited in home kitchen; indoor pets are considered pests and are not permitted under NC home processing program	Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales permitted (NC allows wholesale). Online and mail order permitted. Annual inspection required for all sales. No sa...	Direct sales to consumers, wholesale to retail stores and restaurants. No annual sales cap. Buyers may come to home for pickup. Online sale...	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	North Carolina Home Processor program (02 NCAC 9C.0307) requires annual registration with NCDA&CS and annual home kitchen inspection. Allow...	Annual inspection of home kitchen required by NC Department of Agriculture. Pets prohibited from home kitchen during food preparation/stora...	Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales ...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-refrigerated products only. Sauces and dehydrated foods may require pH or water activity testing.	Kitchen must be in main home dwelling only; no detached structures	Shelf-stable storage only.
POPULATION	383,739	539,557	169,498

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

Forsyth County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina/forsyth-county