

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**Yes**

HOME OCCUPATION

**Yes**

BUSINESS LICENSE

**Yes**

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

## What you need

Pitt County, North Carolina. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

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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/pitt-county>

**Pitt County cottage food law page →**

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

Yes. Pitt County regulates home businesses through zoning ordinance under N.C.G.S. §160A-381 (Dillon's Rule state). Home occupation permit and business privilege license typically required. NC Cottage Food Law (N.C.G.S. §130A-250) — note: \$50,000/year informal limit referenced by local sources but state statute has no explicit cap. No exterior alteration, no outside storage, no hazardous materials. Residence must remain primarily residential. Pitt County Planning and Development website confirmed at [pittcountync.gov](http://pittcountync.gov).

### Health

Yes. Annual inspection required by NCDA&CS.

### Business license

Yes

### Pickup / delivery

Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap under state law.

### 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.pittcountync.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.pittcountync.gov>

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

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<https://www.pittcountync.gov/260/Land-Use-Zoning>

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<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/pitt-county-nc>

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## Pitt County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Pitt County                                                                                                                                    | Craven County                                                                                                                                  | Wilson County                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.                                                                                                    | PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 1... | Pets in the home disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program. This is a strict requirement per 02 NCAC 9C.0307.                |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | No                                                                                                                                             | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap under state law.                                      | Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.          | Direct and indirect sales permitted. Shelf-stable products may be sold at farmers markets, roadside stands, online, and through other chann... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales ... | North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted inc... | Shelf-stable, low-risk foods. Annual home kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely per GM... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Shelf-stable storage only.                                                                                                                     | Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, s... | Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. Products requiring refrigeration are prohibited.                                           |
| POPULATION                 | 171,196                                                                                                                                        | 101,098                                                                                                                                        | 78,667                                                                                                                                         |

## 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)

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