

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania?

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 by city

SALES CAP

—

PENNSYLVANIA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Pennsylvania permits PDF](#)[Pennsylvania cottage food law page](#)[Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Allegheny County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. 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 by city

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

Pennsylvania permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/pennsylvania.pdf>

Pennsylvania cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/pennsylvania/allegheny-county>

Allegheny County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania/allegheny-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Pennsylvania registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Yes. Registration includes sales direct from the production site including internet sales. However, a separate Retail Food Facility License may be required for sales at events or Farmers Markets. Businesses aiming to sell across state lines might also need FDA registration. The registration covers home-based operations in residential kitchens as well as residential-style kitchens in alternate locations such as churches, fire halls, or remodeled garages. Not available in Philadelphia County.

Pennsylvania permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/pennsylvania.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

Statute: [3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Operators must obtain local municipality zoning approval before applying to PDA for the LFE registration. In Allegheny County, municipalities include Pittsburgh and many surrounding townships/boroughs, each with their own zoning codes. Cities of McKeesport, Penn Hills, and Pittsburgh have their own cottage food rules.

Health

Yes. PDA inspects the production site on a routine basis as part of registration. Initial on-site inspection required before registration issuance.

Business license

Varies by city

Pickup / delivery

Registration includes sales direct from production site including internet sales; interstate sales may require FDA registration. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market or event sales.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

PDA Limited Food Establishment is still not a retail commissary. Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment covers certain residential-style kitchens. A retail commissary or shared kitchen typically needs a Retail Food Facility license as well. Ask PDA and the local health department.

Official source: [PDA limited food establishment](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Services/Health-Department/Food-Safety/Permits-and-Registration/Shared-Kitchens>

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.alleghenycounty.us>

<https://pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/food-safety/limited-food-establishment-.html>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/alleggheny-county-pa>

Allegheny County and nearby places

Regulation	Allegheny County	Westmoreland County	Butler County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	Pets excluded from food production areas during production	PA inspectors verify GMP compliance; pet presence in food preparation areas addressed as GMP issue during inspection.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Registration includes sales direct from production site including internet sales; interstate sales may require FDA registration. Retail Foo...	Direct to consumer and limited indirect sales (farmer's markets, retail); no online-only sales without physical presence permitted under st...	PA LFE permits direct-to-consumer and limited indirect sales. Home pickup, delivery, and farmers markets permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Allegheny County follows Pennsylvania state baseline for Limited Food Establishments. Unlike Philadelphia County, Allegheny County is eligi...	Must register as Limited Food Establishment with PA Dept of Agriculture; kitchen inspection required before operating; only non-TCS shelf-s...	Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment (LFE) program requires registration (\$35 for 2-year registration) and initial on-site inspection be...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary, pest-free conditions	Non-refrigerated, non-TCS finished products only. Standard GMP storage.
POPULATION	1,245,310	354,414	194,562

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Pennsylvania permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/pennsylvania.pdf

Pennsylvania cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania

Allegheny County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania/allegheny-county