

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

HOME OCCUPATION

Yes

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

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

What you need

Lancaster 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

Yes

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

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/lanaster-county>

Lancaster County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania/lanaster-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

Yes. Pennsylvania LFE application packet requires local municipality zoning approval as first step. Lancaster County has 60 municipalities (townships, boroughs, and the city of Lancaster). Lancaster County also has a significant Amish/Mennonite farming community with direct farm markets, which may operate under separate rules. Each municipality has independent zoning. Note: Lancaster County is a major food production region; cottage food is common and generally well-accommodated in rural zoning.

Health

Yes. Routine inspection by Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture required before registration and on ongoing basis annually

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

All venues permitted: direct from home, online, retail stores, restaurants, interstate. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market and event sales. No annual sales cap.

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://co.lancaster.pa.us>

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://co.lancaster.pa.us>

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

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/pennsylvania/>

Lancaster County and nearby places

Regulation	Lancaster County	Chester County	York County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply per inspection	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply per inspection	Standard food safety GMP requirements apply during production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	All venues permitted: direct from home, online, retail stores, restaurants, interstate. Retail Food Facility License may be required for fa...	All venues permitted: direct from home, online, retail stores, restaurants, interstate. Retail Food Facility License may be required for fa...	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted; some limited indirect sales allowed. Cannot sell in Philadelphia County. Online sales and in-state deli...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must produce only non-hazardous foods not requiring finished-product refrigeration. Kitchen must pass state inspection. Registration requir...	Must produce only non-hazardous foods not requiring finished-product refrigeration. Kitchen must pass state inspection. Registration requir...	Pennsylvania requires a Limited Food Establishment (LFE) registration from PA Dept. of Agriculture (\$35 fee, 2-year registration). An initi...
FOOD STORAGE	Food must be stored in compliant home kitchen conditions	Food must be stored in compliant home kitchen conditions	Non-TCS, non-refrigerated finished products only. No foods requiring temperature control.
POPULATION	553,202	536,474	457,051

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

Lancaster County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania/lanaster-county