

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

# Can I sell from my kitchen in Washington County, Rhode Island?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**Yes**

HOME OCCUPATION

**Varies**

BUSINESS LICENSE

**Varies**

SALES CAP

**\$50,000 / year**

RHODE ISLAND RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Rhode Island permits PDF](#)[Rhode Island cottage food law page](#)[Rhode Island Department of Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

## What you need

Washington County, Rhode Island. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**Yes**

ANNUAL SALES CAP

**\$50,000 / year**

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

**Varies**

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

**Rhode Island permits PDF →**

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/rhode-island.pdf>

**Rhode Island cottage food law page →**

<https://crosodo.com/states/rhode-island>

**Permit page for this place →**

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/rhode-island/washington-county>

**Washington County cottage food law page →**

<https://crosodo.com/states/rhode-island/washington-county>

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

## Where to file

### State

Rhode Island registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Yes. No wholesale or consignment sales permitted. Sales to grocery stores, restaurants, long-term care facilities, group homes, daycare facilities, and schools are prohibited. Internet/mail/phone sales are permissible but the operator or designee must personally deliver within the state. Farmers market and temporary event sales require an additional retail food peddler license.

Rhode Island permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/rhode-island.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/rhode-island.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/rhode-island](https://crosodo.com/states/rhode-island)

Rhode Island Department of Health: <https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=257>

Statute: [R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2](#)

### Zoning / home occupation

Varies. Washington County (RI) municipalities (South Kingstown, North Kingstown, Narragansett, Westerly, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances and home occupation rules. RI counties do not have county-level governments; all governance is through the state and municipalities. No specific state-level preemption of local zoning for cottage food.

### Health

Yes. Home kitchen inspection required before registration. RI DOH may inspect at any time for compliance.

### Business license

Varies

### Pickup / delivery

Direct sales only. No wholesale/consignment. No sales to grocery stores, restaurants, long-term care facilities, group homes, daycares, or schools. Products may not be sold outside Rhode Island.

### If you rent a commissary kitchen

**RIDOH licenses food establishments.** Rhode Island cottage food is a home bakery path. A commissary is a food establishment licensed by RIDOH. Farmers-market sales may also need a peddler license.

Official source: [RIDOH food safety](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.washingtoncounty.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.

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### SOURCES

<https://www.washingtoncounty.gov>

<https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=257>

<http://webserver.rilegislature.gov/Statutes/TITLE21/21-27/21-27-6.1.htm>

## Washington County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Washington County                                                                                                                              | Kent County                                                                                                                                    | Newport County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified; kitchen sanitation required.                                                                                                    | DOH inspection applies; pets likely required away from food prep areas.                                                                        | Kitchen inspection will evaluate conditions; no specific statutory statement on pets.                                                          |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales only. No wholesale/consignment. No sales to grocery stores, restaurants, long-term care facilities, group homes, daycares, or ... | Direct sales only within Rhode Island. Products may not be sold outside the state.                                                             | Direct sales only within Rhode Island. No wholesale, no grocery store/restaurant sales, no sales to long-term care facilities, group homes,... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | One of the most restrictive cottage food laws in the US. Only non-refrigerated baked goods allowed (double crust pies, yeast breads, biscui... | Only non-refrigerated baked goods allowed (double crust pies, yeast breads, biscuits, brownies, cookies, muffins, cakes that do not require... | Rhode Island has one of the most restrictive cottage food laws in the US. Only non-refrigerated baked goods are allowed (double crust pies,... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Only non-refrigerated baked goods. Stored in food-safe containers.                                                                             | Non-refrigerated shelf-stable baked goods stored properly.                                                                                     | No specific statutory storage requirements beyond what is evaluated in inspection.                                                             |
| POPULATION                 | 129,998                                                                                                                                        | 170,168                                                                                                                                        | 85,442                                                                                                                                         |

## More pages for this place

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

Rhode Island permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/rhode-island.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/rhode-island.pdf)

Rhode Island cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/rhode-island](https://crosodo.com/states/rhode-island)

Washington County cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/rhode-island/washington-county](https://crosodo.com/states/rhode-island/washington-county)