

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

# Can I sell from my kitchen in Bedford County, Tennessee?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**No**

HOME OCCUPATION

**Conditional**

BUSINESS LICENSE

**Varies**

SALES CAP

**—**

TENNESSEE RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Tennessee permits PDF](#)[Tennessee cottage food law page](#)[Tennessee Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 \(Food Freedom Act\)](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

## What you need

Bedford County, Tennessee. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

**No**

ANNUAL SALES CAP

**—**

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

**Conditional**

LOCAL HEALTH

**No**

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

**Tennessee permits PDF →**

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

**Tennessee cottage food law page →**

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

**Permit page for this place →**

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/tennessee/bedford-county>

**Bedford County cottage food law page →**

<https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee/bedford-county>

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

## Where to file

### State

Tennessee registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. The Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Public Chapter 862, effective July 1, 2022) broadly exempts production and sale of non-TCS homemade food items from all licensing, permitting, inspecting, packaging, and labeling laws. Sales may be direct to consumer in person or remotely. Local government ordinances restricting homemade food sales are preempted. Note: Prior to the 2022 Food Freedom Act, the older domestic kitchen regulations (TDA Chapter 0080-4-11) required a permit, inspection, and food safety certification, and limited sales to 100 units/week; the Food Freedom Act supersedes these requirements for qualifying non-TCS homemade foods.

Tennessee permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/tennessee](https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee)

Tennessee Department of Agriculture: <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

Statute: [Tenn. Code §53-1-125 \(Food Freedom Act\)](#)

### Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. No specific Bedford County cottage food ordinances found. City of Shelbyville may require business license for home-based food businesses. Recommend verifying with Bedford County and City of Shelbyville planning departments.

### Health

No. No routine inspection. DOH may investigate foodborne illness. No registration or permit required.

### Business license

Varies

### Pickup / delivery

No restrictions specified in state law. All non-TCS homemade food sales broadly permitted.

### If you rent a commissary kitchen

**A commissary is a food-service permit. Food Freedom is not.** Tennessee Food Freedom covers qualifying homemade non-TCS food. A commissary is a food service establishment permitted by the local health department.

Official source: [TN food service](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.bedfordcounty.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.bedfordcounty.gov>

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

## Bedford County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Bedford County                                                                                                                                 | Coffee County                                                                                                                                  | Lincoln County |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | —              |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | —              |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified in state cottage food law.                                                                                                       | No specific pet restriction in state law.                                                                                                      | —              |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | —              |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | —              |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | —              |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | No restrictions specified in state law. All non-TCS homemade food sales broadly permitted.                                                     | Broad — direct and indirect sales permitted under TN Food Freedom Act. Online, in-person, delivery, farmers markets, retail stores all allo... | —              |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Varies                                                                                                                                         | —              |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | —              |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Any non-TCS homemade food produced at producer's private residence is allowed. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling requirements exc... | Tennessee Food Freedom Act (effective July 1, 2022) broadly allows any non-TCS homemade food from a private residence. No license, permit, ... | —              |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Products must be non-TCS (not requiring temperature control for safety).                                                                       | Non-TCS foods must be stored appropriately.                                                                                                    | —              |
| POPULATION                 | 50,533                                                                                                                                         | 58,080                                                                                                                                         | 35,365         |

## More pages for this place

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

Tennessee permits PDF: [crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf)

Tennessee cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/tennessee](https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee)

Bedford County cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/tennessee/bedford-county](https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee/bedford-county)