

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Hawkins County, Tennessee?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies

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

What you need

Hawkins 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

Varies

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)

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

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

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

[Permit page for this place →](https://crosodo.com/what-permits/tennessee/hawkins-county)

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

[Hawkins County cottage food law page →](https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee/hawkins-county)

<https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee/hawkins-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

State law page: 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

Varies. Tennessee Food Freedom Act preempts local licensing and permitting requirements for cottage food. No state registration required. Hawkins County may have local business license requirements for home-based businesses unrelated to food safety; contact Hawkins County Government in Rogersville.

Health

No. Only DOH may investigate foodborne illness; no routine inspections.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

No restrictions on sales channels under TN Food Freedom Act. Direct, online, delivery, pickup all permitted. Indirect sales (retail stores) also allowed for non-TCS foods.

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.hawkinscounty.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.hawkinscounty.gov>

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

Hawkins County and nearby places

Regulation	Hawkins County	Hamblen County	Greene County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific TN state or Hawkins County rule; standard food safety practices recommended.	No specific state prohibition	Not specified in state law
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	No restrictions on sales channels under TN Food Freedom Act. Direct, online, delivery, pickup all permitted. Indirect sales (retail stores)...	Direct and indirect sales allowed. No restrictions on delivery, farmers markets, online, or retail under the Food Freedom Act.	Indirect sales allowed at markets, online sales permitted; delivery by producer permitted in-state
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Broad exemption for all non-TCS homemade foods produced at producer's private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap requi...	Tennessee Food Freedom Act broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food production from a private residence. No licensing, permit, inspection,...	No sales cap. No registration required. No inspection required. All non-TCS homemade foods allowed. Indirect sales allowed (farmers markets...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-TCS (no refrigeration required). No formal storage rules under TN Food Freedom Act.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; proper storage recommended	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products
POPULATION	57,107	64,531	70,399

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

Tennessee cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/tennessee

Hawkins County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/tennessee/hawkins-county