

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Cameron County, Texas?

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

\$150,000 / year

TEXAS RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Texas permits PDF](#)[Texas cottage food law page](#)[Texas Department of State Health Services cottage food program](#)[Statute: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Cameron County, Texas. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$150,000 / year

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.

HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

Texas does not let counties charge a cottage-food permit. State law says a local government may not require a permit, license, or fee for a cottage food production operation. The leftover local steps are usually city zoning, a DBA (assumed name) at the county clerk, and sales tax if your products are taxable. This packet shows the state DSHS page for the food rules.

Official source: [Texas DSHS cottage food production operations](#)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Texas permits PDF →

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

Texas cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/texas/cameron-county>

Cameron County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/texas/cameron-county>

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

Where to file

State

Texas registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

Texas permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/texas.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/texas

Texas Department of State Health Services: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

Statute: [Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Varies. Cameron County has unincorporated areas and incorporated cities (Brownsville, Harlingen, McAllen area). Each municipality has its own home occupation rules. Texas Statute §559.955 requires cottage food operations to comply with local home-based business rules. Operators should verify with Cameron County and local city whether home occupation permit required. Brownsville: contact City of Brownsville Planning for home occupation requirements.

Health

No. No inspection permitted except to prevent immediate and serious threat to human life or health.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales allowed. Online sales and mail delivery permitted. Products may be sold at direct sales only channels (not wholesale to distributors/retailers per primary statute). SB 541 (2025) added 'cottage food vendor' intermediary pathway.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

DSHS does not let locals permit cottage food. A commissary is different. Texas cottage food is exempt from food-establishment rules. A commissary, restaurant, or shared kitchen is a retail food establishment permitted by the local health department or DSHS.

Official source: [Texas DSHS retail food establishments](#)

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

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

Cameron County and nearby places

Regulation	Cameron County	Willacy County	Hidalgo County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales allowed. Online sales and mail delivery permitted. Products may be sold at direct sales only cha...	Direct-to-consumer sales anywhere in Texas including home pickup, farmers markets, events, and online (with personal delivery). Non-TCS foo...	Direct-to-consumer including online with personal delivery by operator/household member within Texas. Since SB 541 (2025), wholesale to reg...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	No	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	No	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Texas cottage food law (Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.) requires no license, permit, or registration. No state inspection. Annual gr...	Texas cottage food law (SB 541, effective Sept 1 2025) allows sale of nearly all non-TCS foods plus TCS foods directly to consumers. Annual...	Texas strong state preemption: local health departments cannot regulate cottage food production, require permits, fees, or inspections. Mus...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Acidified and fermented foods allowed.	Non-TCS foods unrestricted; TCS foods must be held at proper temperatures ($\leq 41^{\circ}\text{F}$ or $\geq 135^{\circ}\text{F}$).	Standard food storage practices
POPULATION	421,854	20,308	873,167

More pages for this place

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

Texas permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/texas.pdf

Texas cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas

Cameron County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas/cameron-county