

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

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

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

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

What you need

McLennan 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****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.

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/mclennan-county>

[McLennan County cottage food law page →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/states/texas/mclennan-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

Conditional. McLennan County and City of Waco may require home occupation permit or business license. Check with Waco Development Services / City of Waco Zoning.

Health

No. Health department may only act to prevent immediate/serious threat to human life

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct and limited indirect sales; farmers markets, online, home delivery, third-party delivery platforms allowed. Nonprofits may operate under cottage food framework (SB 541, 2025).

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.co.mclennan.tx.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://www.co.mclennan.tx.us>

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

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

McLennan County and nearby places

Regulation	McLennan County	Bell County	Coryell County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute	No specific state restriction.	No specific statutory restriction.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and limited indirect sales; farmers markets, online, home delivery, third-party delivery platforms allowed. Nonprofits may operate u...	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales. Online and mail delivery permitted.	All direct and indirect sales permitted within Texas framework.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	No license, registration, or inspection required from health department. \$150,000 annual gross sales cap (SB 541, 2025). Almost all non-TCS...	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: no registration, permit, or inspection required. Production from home kitchen. Annual gross income cap \$150,000 (SB 541...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; prohibited foods include meat, poultry, seafood, ice products, low-acid canned goods	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Acidified and fermented foods allowed.	No specific statutory requirement.
POPULATION	261,090	372,821	82,927

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

McLennan County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas/mclennan-county