

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Travis 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 by city

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

What you need

Travis 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 by city

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/travis-county>

Travis County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/texas/travis-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. Unincorporated Travis County requires a home occupation permit for home-based businesses; businesses must be secondary to residential use. Cities within Travis County (Austin, Pflugerville, Lakeway, Manor) have their own rules. Austin specifically states cottage food operators do not need a City of Austin food permit, but should verify zoning and other local ordinances with Austin's Development Services Department.

Health

No. Health departments may act only to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. No routine or complaint-driven county inspection authority for CFPOs.

Business license

Varies by city

Pickup / delivery

State law allows direct and indirect sales, online sales with in-person/household delivery. Annual gross income cap \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). Starting Sept 2025, TCS food sellers must register with DSHS.

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.austintexas.gov/health/programs/fixed-food-establishments>

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.traviscountytexas.gov>

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

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/travis-county-tx>

https://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Health/Environmental/RevisedSite/startingfoodbus_2-29-16.pdf

Travis County and nearby places

Regulation	Travis County	Williamson County	Hays County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply	Not specified in state statute
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	State law allows direct and indirect sales, online sales with in-person/household delivery. Annual gross income cap \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025)...	Non-TCS: direct sales at home, farmers markets, online/mail/delivery, third-party platforms, roadside stands within \$150,000 annual cap. TC...	Direct and limited indirect sales; farmers markets, online, home delivery, third-party delivery platforms allowed.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Travis County follows state cottage food law. No county-level health inspection authority for cottage food. City of Austin requires no food...	No TCS foods without registration (SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS foods: no license, permit, or inspection required. Food handler certification req...	No license, registration, or inspection required from health department. \$150,000 annual gross sales cap (SB 541, 2025). Almost all non-TCS...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	Standard home kitchen storage; products must not be adulterated	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; prohibited: meat, poultry, seafood, ice products, low-acid canned goods
POPULATION	1,289,054	617,396	245,351

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

Travis County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/texas/travis-county