

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

# Can I sell from my kitchen in North Carolina?

Home kitchen sales in North Carolina. Then check your city or county. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

---

| STATE FOOD PERMIT | KITCHEN INSPECTION | SALES CAP | PLACES IN THIS FILE |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Yes               | Yes                | —         | 100                 |

---

NORTH CAROLINA RULES

[North Carolina cottage food law page](#)

[North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services cottage food program](#)

[Statute: 02 NCAC 9C.0307](#)

**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what the state asks for a home cottage bakery. Local zoning still applies even when the state requires no food permit.

## What the state asks

Registration: Yes. Routine inspection: Yes. Sales cap: —.

Home processors may sell to retail stores, restaurants, and directly to consumers. Sales at farmers markets are permitted. Labels are required for wholesale and packaged self-service retail; direct hand-to-consumer sales (e.g., from home or at events) may be exempt from affixed labels if ingredient info is available on request. NC requires annual home kitchen inspection, which is unusual among no-cap states.

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

Statute: [02 NCAC 9C.0307](#)

North Carolina cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/north-carolina](https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina). Pick your city or county: [crosodo.com/what-permits](https://crosodo.com/what-permits).

## North Carolina counties and independent cities

Each city or county can add zoning and a business license. Independent cities are listed separately from the surrounding county.

| Place              | Home occupation | Business license | Pickup      |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Wake County        | Conditional     | Varies by city   | Yes         |
| Cabarrus County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Mecklenburg County | Conditional     | Varies by city   | Yes         |
| Craven County      | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Moore County       | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Cleveland County   | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Iredell County     | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Cumberland County  | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Alamance County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Onslow County      | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Davidson County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Johnston County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Pitt County        | Yes             | Yes              | Yes         |
| Guilford County    | Yes             | Varies           | Yes         |
| Durham County      | Yes             | Yes              | Yes         |
| Burke County       | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Lincoln County     | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Caldwell County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Carteret County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Franklin County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Chatham County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Surry County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Robeson County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |

| Place               | Home occupation | Business license | Pickup |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| Wayne County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Henderson County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Brunswick County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Randolph County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Harnett County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Wilson County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Nash County         | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Rockingham County   | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Montgomery County   | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Northampton County  | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Dare County         | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Jackson County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Hyde County         | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Hertford County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Halifax County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Greene County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Graham County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Gates County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Edgecombe County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Davie County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Currituck County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| McDowell County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Clay County         | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Chowan County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Cherokee County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Caswell County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Camden County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Bladen County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Beaufort County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Avery County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Ashe County         | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Anson County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Jones County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Macon County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Alexander County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Richmond County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Washington County   | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Warren County       | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Vance County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Tyrrell County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Transylvania County | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |
| Swain County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes    |

| Place              | Home occupation | Business license | Pickup      |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Yadkin County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Yancey County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Stokes County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Scotland County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Madison County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Polk County        | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Person County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Perquimans County  | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Pasquotank County  | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Pamlico County     | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Mitchell County    | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Martin County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Alleghany County   | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Bertie County      | Varies          | Varies           | Yes         |
| Lenoir County      | Yes             | Varies           | Yes         |
| Watauga County     | Yes             | Yes              | Conditional |
| Stanly County      | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Rutherford County  | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Lee County         | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Granville County   | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Haywood County     | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Wilkes County      | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Pender County      | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Sampson County     | Varies          | Varies           | Conditional |
| Catawba County     | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Orange County      | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Rowan County       | Conditional     | Varies           | Yes         |
| Forsyth County     | Yes             | Yes              | Yes         |
| Duplin County      | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Hoke County        | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Columbus County    | Conditional     | Varies           | Conditional |
| Buncombe County    | Yes             | Conditional      | Conditional |
| New Hanover County | Yes             | Conditional      | Conditional |
| Union County       | Yes             | Conditional      | Conditional |
| Gaston County      | Yes             | Conditional      | Conditional |