

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# McLean County

Illinois · Bloomington · FIPS 17113 · Population 171,284 ·  
Crosodo Index #1262\*

STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

**IMPORTANT – NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

**Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision.** Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

## ILLINOIS: MCLEAN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1262\* · FIPS 17113 · Bloomington

# McLean County

Population 171,284 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4) ·

MEDIUM

**QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Registration with local health department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Direct sales only within Illinois. Most non-TCS foods allowed. Special documentation required for acidified/fermented foods.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No explicit state restriction; CFPM certification training addresses food safety.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (McLean County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. Registration with McLean County Health Department required for cottage food operations. County URLs were blank in input. Bloomington and Normal have separate municipal rules.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (McLean County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. Local health departments may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d).)

**Home kitchen rules**

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Registration with local health department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Direct sales only within Illinois. Most non-TCS foods allowed. Special documentation required for acidified/fermented foods.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No explicit state restriction; CFPM certification training addresses food safety.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water supply required.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Adequate handwashing per CFPM standards.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Shelf-stable storage; perishables not permitted except where explicitly allowed.

**Inspection & permitting**

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — McLean County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. Local health departments may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d).
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — McLean County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. Registration with McLean County Health Department required for cottage food operations. County URLs were blank in input. Bloomington and Normal have separate municipal rules.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales statewide. Online sales with in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified.

**Relevant county code**

410 ILCS 625/4; no specific county code found.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

McLean County (Bloomington-Normal area) has no verified county-specific cottage food rules beyond Illinois state baseline. County URLs were blank in input. McLean County Health Department administers cottage food registrations for unincorporated areas.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

**Questions?** Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/illinois/mclean-county-discuss>

## State context — Illinois cottage food law

McLean County's rules sit on top of Illinois's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

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<b>STATUTE</b> 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> Yes (specific course)
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Illinois prohibits sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale; direct in-state sales are allowed anywhere including home, online, farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.	

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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Illinois cottage food law report](#).

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

State dept cottage food page: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/illinois/>

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## Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss McLean County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/illinois/mclean-county-discuss>

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