

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Fayette County

Kentucky · Lexington · FIPS 21067 · Population 321,276 ·
Crosodo Index #2656*

STATE BASELINE

KRS §217.137; registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; complaint-based inspection; no food handler cert required

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Okay	60000	MEDIUM	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.

KENTUCKY: FAYETTE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2656* · FIPS 21067 · Lexington

Fayette County

Population 321,276 · State baseline: KRS §217.137; registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; complaint-based inspection; no food handler cert required · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labeling required)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Fayette County/Lexington is a consolidated urban county government. No specific home occupation permit for cottage food identified. Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government may have home occupation zoning requirements; operator should verify with LFUCG planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based investigation by KY Dept for Public Health)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labeling required
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based investigation by KY Dept for Public Health
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Fayette County/Lexington is a consolidated urban county government. No specific home occupation permit for cottage food identified. Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government may have home occupation zoning requirements; operator should verify with LFUCG planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern-status county. Fayette County is consolidated with Lexington (LFUCG). KY requires registration and has a \$60,000 annual cap. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

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

STATUTE KRS §217.137	ANNUAL SALES CAP 60000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/fayette-county-discuss>
