

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Jessamine County

Kentucky · Nicholasville · FIPS 21113 · Population 53,381 ·
Crosodo Index #2583*

STATE BASELINE

KRS §217.136 (Home-Based Processors); 902 KAR 45:090

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

60000

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.

KENTUCKY: JESSAMINE COUNTY

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Jessamine County

Population 53,381 · State baseline: KRS §217.136 (Home-Based Processors); 902 KAR 45:090 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Primary residence kitchen only. No commercial equipment. All foods must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable per 902 KAR 45:090 approved list. Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration fee \$50/year.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

KY state rules do not explicitly address pets. Standard sanitation applies.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Jessamine County is a suburban county adjacent to Lexington. Local occupational license may be required in Nicholasville or unincorporated Jessamine County. State registration (\$50/year) required through KY Food Safety Branch. Contact Jessamine County government in Nicholasville.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (KY Food Safety Branch may inspect on complaint or foodborne illness investigation.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Primary residence kitchen only. No commercial equipment. All foods must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable per 902 KAR 45:090 approved list. Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration fee \$50/year.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	KY state rules do not explicitly address pets. Standard sanitation applies.
WATER SUPPLY	Primary residence with approved water supply.
HANDWASHING	Standard good manufacturing practices; complaint-based inspection.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-potentially hazardous products only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — KY Food Safety Branch may inspect on complaint or foodborne illness investigation.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Jessamine County is a suburban county adjacent to Lexington. Local occupational license may be required in Nicholasville or unincorporated Jessamine County. State registration (\$50/year) required through KY Food Safety Branch. Contact Jessamine County government in Nicholasville.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers only (KRS §217.136). No wholesale or retail store channel.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No additional employees; production by registered applicant only.

Relevant county code

KRS §217.136; 902 KAR 45:090; no Jessamine County-specific ordinance identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Jessamine County is adjacent to Lexington-Fayette County and is one of the faster-growing suburban areas in Kentucky. No county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline: \$60,000 cap, direct sales only, approved food list only. Registration renewal annual (April 1 to March 31).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/homebasedprocessing.aspx>

<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/jessamine-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Jessamine County	Madison County	Fayette County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	KY state rules do not explicitly address pets. Standard sanitation applies.	No specific restriction stated.	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales to consumers only (KRS §217.136). No wholesale or retail store channel.	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order under primary pa...	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Primary residence kitchen only. No commercial equipment. All foods must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable per 902 KAR 45:090 ap...	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. D...	KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labe...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-potentially hazardous products only.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; residential-scale kitchen equipment only.	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	53,381	92,955	321,276

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Jessamine 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 Jessamine County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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