

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Owen County

Kentucky · Owenton · FIPS 21187 · Population 11,435 ·  
Crosodo Index #2715\*

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STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.137	Okay	60000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

**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: OWEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2715\* · FIPS 21187 · Owenton

# Owen County

Population 11,435 · State baseline: KRS §217.137 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or retail. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, maple/sorghum syrups, granola, dried goods, snack mixes, popcorn. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, fermented foods, low-acid canned foods, meats. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state law

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (No county-specific home occupation ordinance identified. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. Local health officials may conduct annual kitchen inspections. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or retail. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, maple/sorghum syrups, granola, dried goods, snack mixes, popcorn. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, fermented foods, low-acid canned foods, meats. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state law
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Standard residential water supply
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good sanitation practices implied
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — No county-specific home occupation ordinance identified. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. Local health officials may conduct annual kitchen inspections. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer only within KY; farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, festivals, community events, online orders (in-state); home pickup and delivery allowed. No wholesale, no mail delivery, no out-of-state.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

### Relevant county code

Not identified

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Kentucky Okay-tier state. \$60,000 annual cap. Local ordinances not preempted by state law. State law confirmed via IJ.org and CHFS.ky.gov. No county-specific zoning records identified for home occupation / cottage food overlay. Defaulted to state baseline.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/kentucky/>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Owen County	Carroll County	Gallatin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.	Pets and children must be excluded from the kitchen during food production per KRS §217.136 and associated regulations.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only within KY; farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, festivals, community events, online orders (in-state); home pic...	Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based...	Direct-to-consumer only. Permitted venues: home (on-premises pickup), farmers markets, certified roadside stands, community events, fairs, ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	No	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Annual sales cap \$60,000. Registration required with KY Dept of Public Health (\$50/year). No food handler cert required. Inspection upon co...	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH...	Kentucky Home-Based Processor (HBP) law (KRS §217.136) allows production and direct sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a primary resid...
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.	Non-TCS (non-potentially hazardous), shelf-stable foods only. No commercial refrigerators permitted beyond household limits (up to three st...
POPULATION	11,229	10,920	8,720

## State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Owen 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.

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<p><b>STATUTE</b> KRS §217.137</p> <p><b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes</p> <p><b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint</p> <p><b>INDIRECT SALES</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 60000</p> <p><b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No</p> <p><b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Kentucky cottage food law report](#).

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### 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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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