COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Tensas Parish

Louisiana · Saint Joseph · FIPS 22107 · Population 3,844 · Crosodo Index #2258*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
La. R.S. §40:4.9	Okay	100000	MEDIUM	2026-10-06

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Tensas Parish, Louisiana — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?	STATE SALES CAP
Yes	100000
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?	ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?
Varies	Yes
INSPECTION	PETS
No	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Louisiana cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Louisiana home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Louisiana label one-pager →

Print labels for your first market →

Local notes & questions →

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

LOUISIANA: TENSAS PARISH

CROSODO INDEX #2258* · FIPS 22107 · Saint Joseph

Tensas Parish

Population 3,844 · State baseline: La. R.S. §40:4.9 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?
Yes (Annual gross sales capped at $30,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee assistance in production, pets excluded from preparation areas, refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients. A sales tax certificate from the parish of sale required before selling.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?
No

PETS ALLOWED?
Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?
Varies (Tensas Parish is one of the smallest and most rural Louisiana parishes. A parish sales tax certificate is required before selling. No specific parish-level cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?
Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?
No (No routine inspection required. LDH may investigate upon complaint or illness report.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual gross sales capped at $30,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee assistance in production, pets excluded from preparation areas, refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients. A sales tax certificate from the parish of sale required before selling.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	Required per Louisiana food safety standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Perishable ingredients must be refrigerated at 45°F or below. Finished shelf-stable products stored in food-safe containers.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required. LDH may investigate upon complaint or illness report.
LOCAL HEALTH / COUNTY REGISTRATION	No
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Tensas Parish is one of the smallest and most rural Louisiana parishes. A parish sales tax certificate is required before selling. No specific parish-level cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Indirect sales allowed for most low-risk foods. Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, events. No wholesaling to retail chains.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	For the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies), no employees may assist in production.

Relevant county code

Tensas Parish Code of Ordinances (not specifically identified for cottage food); sales tax certificate required from parish.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (LA) applied: La. R.S. §40:4.9, $30,000 cap, parish sales tax certificate required. Tensas Parish is one of the most rural and sparsely populated Louisiana parishes. No unique parish-level cottage food ordinances identified. County follows state baseline. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.tensascounty.gov
https://ldh.la.gov/page/cottage-food-laws
https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=98431

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/louisiana/tensas-parish-discuss

Tensas Parish and nearby places

Regulation	Tensas Parish	Catahoula Parish	Madison Parish
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	**Yes**	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	**No**	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	**Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.**	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	**No**	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	**Yes**	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	**Conditional**	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	**Indirect sales allowed for most low-risk foods. Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, events. No wholesaling to retail chains.**	Direct-to-consumer (home, farmers markets, roadside stands, fairs, events, online within LA, mail within LA). Big Four direct-to-consumer o…	Indirect sales allowed for most low-risk foods. Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, events. No wholesaling to retail chains.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	**Varies**	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	**Varies**	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	**Annual gross sales capped at $100,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee as…**	Annual sales cap $100,000. No license, permit, or registration required (only sales tax certificates from LA Dept of Revenue and local paris…	Annual gross sales capped at $100,000. Sales of the four named baked goods categories (breads, cakes, cookies, pies) require: no employee as…
FOOD STORAGE	**Perishable ingredients must be refrigerated at 45°F or below. Finished shelf-stable products stored in food-safe containers.**	Refrigeration at 45°F or below for perishable ingredients; appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	Perishable ingredients must be refrigerated at 45°F or below. Finished shelf-stable products stored in food-safe containers.
POPULATION	**4,127**	8,895	10,028

State context — Louisiana cottage food law

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

STATUTE
La. R.S. §40:4.13

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
No

KITCHEN INSPECTION
No

INDIRECT SALES
Limited (see notes) — Most low-risk foods may be sold indirectly (to restaurants, retail stores), but breads, cakes, cookies, and pies specifically may NOT be sold to any retail business or individual for resale — they are direct-to-consumer only.

ANNUAL SALES CAP
100000

FOOD HANDLER CERT
No

DIRECT SALES ONLY
No

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Louisiana cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/louisiana.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=98863

State dept cottage food page: https://ldh.la.gov/page/cottage-food-laws

Forrager.com: https://forrager.com/law/louisiana/

Questions about Tensas Parish? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/louisiana/tensas-parish-discuss

RESEARCH NOTES

Baker's Notes

Research notes, not a state ruling. Baker talk is what people discuss. Official pages are cited separately. Confirm before you sell.

Sell to stores (next level)

Cottage / home-kitchen exemptions are usually direct-to-consumer and not for resale into stores. Selling into retail stores typically requires a state manufactured-food (or equivalent) permit and an inspected production kitchen, plus local zoning and business licensing.

This county: We have not collected local store-shelf notes for this place yet.

Confirm with the state food agency and local planning / commissioner offices before you sell into stores. Not legal advice.

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here
Reach home bakers in Tensas Parish, Louisiana. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.
crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here
Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.
crosodo.com/nb/louisiana/tensas-parish-discuss

Free ad space available
Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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