

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Franklin County

Pennsylvania · Chambersburg · FIPS 42055 · Population  
156,084 · Crosodo Index #2779\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737	Good	—	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.

PENNSYLVANIA: FRANKLIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2779\* · FIPS 42055 · Chambersburg

# Franklin County

Population 156,084 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Conditional (Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Non-TCS foods only. Must submit application at least 60 days prior to operating. Allowed: baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing), candy, and other shelf-stable foods. Not available in Philadelphia County.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Franklin County municipalities may require home occupation permits under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay found beyond state rules.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Conditional — Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Non-TCS foods only. Must submit application at least 60 days prior to operating. Allowed: baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing), candy, and other shelf-stable foods. Not available in Philadelphia County.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Private water supply testing may be required as part of registration review.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Adequate handwashing facility required; diagram of processing areas required with application.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Franklin County municipalities may require home occupation permits under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay found beyond state rules.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales allowed within Pennsylvania. Wholesale to restaurants and food establishments has restrictions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local zoning may apply.

### Relevant county code

Franklin County municipalities' Zoning Ordinances; 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. PA requires initial inspection and \$35 registration fee. No Franklin County-specific cottage food code identified.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&t1=03&div=0&chpt=57>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Franklin County	Adams County	Cumberland County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.	No specific state pet restriction for LFE, but standard sanitation applies.	Not specified in statute; home kitchen must meet sanitation requirements during inspection
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales allowed within Pennsylvania. Wholesale to restaurants and food establishments...	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales permitted. Online sales and delivery allowed. Sales to retail establishments conditionally permi...	Direct and some indirect sales allowed via Limited Food Establishment registration; markets, home sales, online, and some retail channels.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registr...	Pennsylvania's Limited Food Establishment (LFE) allows non-TCS (non-refrigerated) foods: baked goods, jams/ jellies, beverages/drinks, acid/...	Non-TCS foods only; registration required (\$35 for 2-year term); initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued; su...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.	Non-TCS foods only. Foods requiring refrigeration are prohibited. Low-acid canned foods (LACF) have additional requirements. Meat, poultry,...	Non-TCS shelf-stable; no refrigerated finished products
POPULATION	156,084	104,604	261,269

## State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

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

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### STATUTE

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737

### ANNUAL SALES CAP

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### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

### FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

Yes

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

### INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Registration includes sales direct from the production site including internet sales. However, a separate Retail Food Facility License may be required for sales at events or Farmers Markets. Businesses aiming to sell across state lines might also need FDA registration. The registration covers home-based operations in residential kitchens as well as residential-style kitchens in alternate locations such as churches, fire halls, or remodeled garages. Not available in Philadelphia County.

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&t1=03&div=0&chpt=57>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

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

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## Questions?

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

**<https://crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/franklin-county-discuss>**

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