Michigan's Cottage Foods

A Guide for Cottage Food Businesses



What's Allowed: Up to \$25,000 yearly in gross sales of certain foods with no license, registration, or inspection. Cottage foods businesses may advertise online, and collect payments in-person, online, or through a pay app.

What's Required: Cottage foods must be made, packaged, and labeled in your primary residence (home). The label is required to include the statement, "Made in a home kitchen not inspected by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development." Cottage foods must be delivered from you to your customer in-person; mail-orders, shipping, selling to businesses, or having a business sell products for you is not allowed. Only low-risk foods that do not require refrigeration after preparation may be considered for cottage food businesses.



Cannot Be Cottage Foods May Be Considered for Cottage Foods

- X Bread with fresh vegetables or chunks of cheese
- X Custard or cream-based pies
- **X** Cakes requiring refrigeration (e.g., cheesecake)
- **X** Frosting or glaze made from ingredients requiring refrigeration (e.g., cream cheese frosting)
- **X** Freeze-dried products made from temperaturecontrolled foods (e.g., ice cream, cheesecake)
- **X** Tinctures
- X Other jams/jellies (e.g., vegetable, hot pepper, low/ no-sugar) or fruit/vegetable butters
- X Garlic in oil mixtures
- **X** Salad dressings, sauces, or condiments
- **X** Cut melon, tomato, or leafy greens products
- X Fresh pasta
- **X** Caramel apples

- √ Breads, quick breads, muffins, cookies
- √ Pies shelf-stable
- √ Cakes cupcakes, birthday, wedding, etc.
- √ Frosting or glaze made with shelf-stable ingredients or from tested recipes
- √ Freeze-dried products from shelf-stable foods (e.g., candy, herbs, some fruits, raw vegetables)
- √ Extracts (e.g., vanilla extract)
- ✓ Fruit jams or jellies (as defined in 21 CFR part 150) in glass jars
- √ Vinegar and flavored vinegar
- √ Mixes dry baking, dips, soup, dry herbs, or herbs
- √ Dried pasta with or without egg
- ✓ Snacks popcorn, granola, nuts, or chocolate covered pretzels, bananas, strawberries, apple slices, etc.
- √ Roasted coffee beans
- √ Whole and sliced dehydrated fruits or vegetables

See our website for more examples: www.michigan.gov/cottagefood

These Categories Are NOT Allowed:

- **X** Beverages
- **X** CBD, cannabis, or foods containing these products
- **X** Dairy or dairy products
- **X** Dietary supplements
- **X** Fish or fish products
- X Canned fruit or vegetables
- X Ice or ice products
- **X** Meat or meat products
- **X** Pet food or treats
- **X** Pickled products

Questions?

Visit MDARD's website: click here or scan the QR code.



Call 800-292-3939 or email MDARD-CottageFood@michigan.gov to connect with a food inspector in your area.