Licenses and Homemade Baked Goods

As of November 2024, certain court orders prohibit enforcement of licensing requirements for home bakers who make baked goods that are not potentially hazardous to sell directly to consumers.

See Kivirist v. DATCP, Lafayette County Case No. 2016CV06.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Home Producers of Baked Goods:

- The court's orders apply only to people producing baked goods in their homes.
- Commercial kitchen baking businesses must follow Wisconsin Administrative Code chapters ATCP 70 and ATCP 75.
- All commercial kitchens must ensure food businesses using their facilities are appropriately licensed.

Not "Potentially Hazardous" Food:

- The court's order applies only to baked goods that are not potentially hazardous as defined by Wis. Stat. §§ 97.29(1)(hm) and 97.30(1)(bm).
- Baked goods are generally exposed to dry heat, transferred via air, at a temperature above 140°F, to a food in a closed chamber such as an oven.
- The finished product must not be potentially hazardous.

Direct Sales to Consumers:

- The court order applies to a home baker that sells baked goods directly to consumers.
- Businesses wholesaling baked goods must be licensed.

Disclaimer:

- Ongoing litigation may affect the applicability of this information.
- Business operators should determine if they need a food business license.
- For more information, contact a licensing specialist at (608) 224-4923 or datcpdfslicensing@wisconsin.gov.

For more information and resources on food safety, access our list of Food Code Fact Sheets.

