

# TEXAS COTTAGE FOOD BUSINESS START-UP Checklist

## 1. BEFORE YOU START

- ☐ Understand the Texas Cottage Food Law and how it applies to your business.
- ☐ Decide which food products you plan to sell.
- ☐ Confirm that each product is allowed under the Texas Cottage Food Law.

## 2. REQUIRED COMPLIANCE STEPS

- ☐ Complete a basic course in safe food handling. Visit FoodSafePal.com, and use coupon code ComeAndBakeTX for \$5 off.
- ☐ Create legally compliant labels for each cottage food product.
- ☐ Research and acquire appropriate packaging for your product.

## 3. RECOMMENDED BUSINESS SETUP STEPS

- ☐ Develop a basic business plan (products, pricing, sales locations).
- ☐ Determine whether you need a Sales & Use Tax Permit (Texas Comptroller).
- ☐ Choose a business name and register a DBA if desired.
- ☐ Open a separate business bank account.
- ☐ Create a website and/or social media presence.
- ☐ Order basic marketing materials like business cards.

## 4. READY TO SELL

- ☐ Begin selling directly to consumers!
- ☐ Scout out local shops who might be interested in wholesaling your food.
- ☐ Scout out local farmer's markets, craft fairs, and other sales venues.
- ☐ Maintain good sales records.
- ☐ Stay current on updates to the Texas Cottage Food Law with Homemade Texas.

