

SELLING MEAT IN ILLINOIS

Information for Livestock Producers

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PROCESSOR OR BROKER

A **processor** is any person engaged in the *business of preparing food from animals*, including poultry, derived wholly or in part from livestock or poultry carcasses or parts or products of such carcasses.

A **broker** is any person engaged in the business of buying, negotiating for purchase of, handling of, or *selling of animal meat products in their original containers* without changing the products in any way. A broker cannot have any processing equipment in their licensed facility. A broker is able to sell wholesale. A Broker license is not required to sell retail meat products from an “approved source” to households, not business entities. An “approved source” is the presence on the product of a state (in the shape of Illinois) or federal (circle) mark of inspection.



Left: Federal market of inspection; Right: State mark of inspection. These marks confirm the produce is from an approved source.



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PROCESSOR — TYPE 1 OR TYPE 2

A **Type 1 License*** permits establishments to receive live animals and/or meat products for slaughter and processing, under inspection by State of Illinois Department of Agriculture personnel. Properly labeled & inspected products are eligible for *intrastate sale*.

***For interstate sales, meat products must be USDA inspected in Type 1 establishment.**



A **Type 2 License** permits establishments to receive live animals and/or meat products for slaughter and processing as a *service only*. Meat products produced in a Type 2 establishment are not produced under inspection and are not eligible for sale in commerce.

However, a live animal can be sold to the consumer and then delivered to the Type 2 processor. The consumer pays the processor for processing of the animal and picks up the finished product from the facility.





OBTAINING A LICENSE

Processor Licenses (Type 1 or Type 2)

The Application for License is available at the [Illinois Department of Agriculture, Meat & Poultry Inspection - Meat & Poultry License website](#) as well as all the required procedures necessary for obtaining a license besides completing the application. All this must be completed within one year of the date of application.

Meat and/or Poultry Broker License

The Application for Brokerage License form is available at the [Illinois Department of Agriculture, Meat & Poultry Inspection - Brokers website](#).

ILLINOIS POULTRY RAISERS EXEMPTION

225 ILCS 650/5

- Consult with local State Meat Inspector
- The request for exemption must be submitted in writing to the Illinois Department of Ag., Meat & Poultry Inspection. If granted, the exemption is good for two years for birds produced on your farm.
- Up to 5,000 birds may be processed under granted exemption.
- The poultry marketed must be labeled as exempted from government inspection.
- Exempted poultry products must be sold or delivered to the consumer on the premise where exemption is given.
- Such slaughter or processing shall be performed in sanitary facilities and subject to periodic inspection by Illinois Department of Agriculture personnel.

MEAT PACKAGING TIPS

- **Use clear plastic packaging:** Consumers want to see your product.
- **Use vacuum sealed packaging:** It reduces dehydration or “freezer burn.”
- **Label & logo:** Your product label should have contact information and your logo. This leads to repeat sales.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Illinois Meat and Poultry Inspection Act
- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Meat & Poultry Inspection
- USDA, Food Safety & Inspection Service
- USDA, FSIS — Small Plants Resources

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