

STEP BY STEP GUIDE · BOWLING GREEN

Turkish Consular Matters from Bowling Green: 2026 Guide

Your mission is in Chicago, which is also on Central Time: the posted hours are your hours. But the apostille chain has two steps and the apostille office is on Eastern Time.

SHORT ANSWER

Kentucky falls within the consular district of the Turkish Consulate General in Chicago, and we verified that from the mission's own jurisdiction list: **Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin**. Thirteen states, and Kentucky is on the list. **There is no Turkish consulate in Kentucky**, and almost every transaction runs on **booking an appointment and applying in person**, which means **a trip to Chicago for most matters - that is a labeled inference**. **And there is a concrete convenience for a Bowling Green reader: the consulate general is also on Central Time, so the posted hours are your hours - you do not have to do the conversion a reader in the eastern part of the state does.**

Contact and hours

ITEM	INFORMATION
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611 (NBC Tower)
Phone	+1 312 263 0644 · Fax +1 312 263 1449
Email	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Duty and emergency line (outside office hours)	+1 773 386 3213
Consular call center (24/7)	+90 312 292 29 29
Local number for the United States and Canada	+1 888 566 7656
Office hours	Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Appointment visits	9:30 a.m. to noon
Telephone transactions	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Note the last two rows: appointment visits and telephone transactions run in **different windows**. Do not plan to go in the afternoon and be served at the counter. **And those hours are Central Time, which is to say your**

time.

THE DOMAIN TRAP

The forms of Turkish mission web addresses written with a **dot did not open at all** in this research; **the working form uses a hyphen**. That trivial looking difference is what makes people think **"the site is down"** while trying to book an appointment. **If you click an old link and the page does not open, check whether the address is in that form.**

How appointments are booked

Nearly every transaction is by appointment, and Turkey's consular transactions run through **a single official portal: konsolosluk.gov.tr**. The mission's own page offers two appointment routes - **consular transactions for Turkish citizens** and **visa pre-applications for foreign nationals** - plus links to **check an appointment** and **cancel an appointment**. **The sentence repeated under every transaction record: "you must apply in person after booking an appointment."**

What is handled there

The portal's own top level headings are: **births, civil registry, Yuvam accounts, marriage, passports, military service, notarial acts, Turkish citizenship, deaths, judicial matters, land registry and cadastre, e-government, driver licenses and employment**. The items a Turkish reader uses most:

- **Passport** renewals and first passports.
- **Notarial acts**: the portal lists a single combined transaction covering **powers of attorney, revocations, consents, undertakings and contracts**. A power of attorney for a sale, an inheritance matter or a case in Turkey is executed **here**. **The fee and document list could not be read from the institution's own text**; ask when you book.
- **Birth registration**: registering a child born in Kentucky in the Turkish civil registry runs through this route; **that is an inference** - the mission does not write it as a Kentucky specific statement. **The document list - the U.S. birth certificate, any apostille requirement, parents' passports - could not be read**.
- **Citizenship**: if you have naturalized as a U.S. citizen, **registering multiple citizenship**; if you have renounced Turkish citizenship, the **Mavi Kart**. **We make no claim in this guide about the scope of the Mavi Kart** - the institution's own text could not be read.
- **Employment and social security**: the portal has a heading but **no listed transaction records were found under it**. On buying back time spent abroad we write **no amount, no day count and no condition**; only secondary sources exist.

Military service

Military service matters run through the same mission, and the official transaction list carries the headings separately; **all of them require an appointment plus an in-person application: deferral abroad** (for employees, employers, members of a profession or craft, seafarers and people with multiple citizenship, and separately for students), **paid military service abroad**, and **exemption** (one for holders of multiple citizenship and one for health conditions preventing service).

Measured from the ministry of national defense's own distance learning portal:

- **Distance learning is mandatory:** those who want to use paid military service must take the training through that portal.
- **Who:** those who have reached conscription age and **have not yet begun actual military service.**
- **Duration requirement:** holding a residence or work permit abroad and having **actually worked at least three years;** for those with **multiple citizenship,** having lived abroad **at least three years** excluding time spent in Turkey.
- **The age 38 limit has been removed.**
- **Payment: in full and in cash at the time of application; no installments.**
- **The consulate makes the eligibility assessment.**
- **The amount is not stated on the portal.**

Why we print no figure: for 2026 **two different amounts circulate** and they do not agree; the announcements that can be found come from **other consulates general** and **the currency conversion can differ by country.** A figure given by one press source also **does not match,** and **it could not be confirmed from the Chicago Consulate General's own announcement.** **What to do:** check the mission's current announcement or ask for the amount when you book. **Because payment is made in full and in cash, settle the amount before you travel** - arriving with an insufficient sum means **a second trip.** **And deferrals are time limited:** they must be renewed before they lapse and **no system reminds you** - set a calendar reminder **at least three months before the end date.**

Is there an honorary consulate?

Whether Turkey has an honorary consulate in Kentucky could not be verified in this research; the mission's honorary consulates page returned no content. **The limits of an honorary consulate's authority** - whether it can handle passport or civil registry matters - **could not be read either.** **We are not saying there is none;** if you hear of one, **confirm it with the Consulate General first** and ask which transactions that office can actually perform.

Sending a document to Turkey: the apostille chain has two steps

This item is specific to Kentucky and skipping it gets your request rejected. The chain: for a notarized paper document, **the county clerk first certifies the notary's signature, and then the Secretary of State issues the apostille.** The office's own warning: **Requests for documents that do not have the required signatures will be rejected.**

ROUTE	FEE	TURNAROUND
By mail	\$5 per document	Completed within three business days and returned by regular mail; you may include a prepaid, self-addressed shipping label to speed it up
In person	\$5 per document	Completed while you wait. Address 1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 201, hours Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Electronic	Electronic payment	The apostille is issued as a PDF and emailed. This option does not apply to vital records

Mailing address: Office of the Secretary of State, Authentications and Apostilles, P.O. Box 718, Frankfort, KY 40602 · (502) 564-3490.

ANOTHER TIME ZONE NOTE BELONGS HERE

The Secretary of State's office is in **Frankfort** and on **Eastern Time** - **you are on Central**. **If you plan to go in person, the 4:00 p.m. closing is 3:00 p.m. on your clock. Leave early**, and keep in mind that **state agencies' hours may not carry a zone label**.

The order for a paper document, and the step you cannot skip

- 1** A **Kentucky notary** notarizes your signature.
- 2** The **county clerk** certifies the notary's signature. **Which county clerk? The county where the notary is registered.**
- 3** The **Secretary of State** issues the apostille.

In Bowling Green the door for the second step is the Warren County Clerk - **if your notary is registered in Warren County. Ask in advance which county your notary is registered in**; if it is a different one, **you have to go to that county**, and that can add days to your plan. **The electronic route has no such step**: if an authorized **Kentucky online notary** did the notarization, **county clerk certification is not required** and the apostille comes back as a PDF. **But vital records do not take that route.**

- **Vital records** (birth, marriage, divorce, single status) must bear **the current State Registrar's signature**. The state vital statistics office: **(502) 564-4212**. **And when you order the certified copy you have to say that you will use it for an apostille** - that is the office's own rule, and **if you forget, the document is of no use**.
- **School documents** (transcripts, diplomas): a school official's signature notarized by a Kentucky notary, then county clerk certification.
- **Kentucky criminal background check**: specifically request a **notarized** record from the state police **(502-227-8700)**, then county clerk certification. **A background check issued by the court administration cannot be apostilled.**
- **Federal documents** (FBI background checks, federal tax records, passports) are not the state office's work; the **federal state department** apostilles them.
- **Court records**: the circuit court clerk's signature, certified by **the corresponding county clerk**.
- **If you will use an Affidavit of True Copy**, ask **the consulate the document will be presented to** whether it will be accepted - that is the office's own warning.
- **An apostille is not a translation**. A document you will use in Turkey may also need a **sworn translation**; ask **the institution it will be presented to** where that should be done.

Getting there: no direct flight

The city has its own airport, but no scheduled commercial service was found in this research and the airport's own page could not be reached. **We are not saying there are no flights** - the research did not find them. **The practical conclusion is an inference**: flying from here means **driving to a neighboring airport with scheduled service**; we print no distance or drive time figures in this guide. **What was measured for**

the state's airports with scheduled service: among the carriers named on the own pages of the airports serving the state's two largest cities, there is **no scheduled transatlantic passenger carrier**. **So there is no direct flight from Kentucky to Istanbul and the journey requires a connection - that is an inference** based on the airports' own carrier lists. **Flight durations, the number of connections and which days flights operate were not measured and are not printed here.**

One idea: if you have consular business, plan your trip to Turkey **with a Chicago connection** and line the connection day up with your appointment. **But book the appointment first and the ticket second;** appointments can be full. **And one more convenience:** Chicago is also in the **Central** zone, so **you plan the flight times and the appointment on the same clock.**

Checklist before you go to Chicago

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Book the appointment	Through konsolosluk.gov.tr ; every transaction requires applying in person. Check your appointment before you set out
☐ No clock arithmetic, but check the route	The consulate general is also on Central Time - their hours are your hours. But make sure you have not crossed a zone inside the state on the way; the eastern part of the state is on Eastern
☐ Pick the right window	Appointment visits 9:30 a.m. to noon , telephone transactions 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
☐ Confirm the document list in advance	+1 888 566 7656 (United States and Canada) or +90 312 292 29 29 (24/7). An appointment attended with a missing document means a second trip
☐ Fit everything into one trip	Group passport, power of attorney, civil registry and military service matters into the same appointment; schedule family members' transactions for the same day
☐ Complete the training first for military service	Distance learning is mandatory , payment is in full and in cash with no installments ; settle the amount in advance
☐ Do not skip a link in the apostille chain	For a notarized paper document, the county clerk first, then the Secretary of State . Skipping it means rejection . Ask which county your notary is registered in
☐ Do not try the electronic apostille for a vital record	The office's own exception: that option does not apply to vital records . And when ordering the certified copy, say you will use it for an apostille
☐ Write the web address with a hyphen	The dotted form does not open; that is where most people get stuck
☐ Save the emergency numbers	Outside office hours: +1 773 386 3213 · 24/7: +90 312 292 29 29



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN BOWLING GREEN

Do you have a question about your immigration situation?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Bowling Green and the surrounding area in Turkish and English. Free preliminary evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is admitted to the Missouri bar (No. 76084) and practices in the area of U.S. federal immigration law.

Attorney advertising. This guide is for general information only, is not legal advice and does not substitute for the advice of an attorney.

Information was compiled from official sources as of October 15, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act.

Reading this document does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of an attorney is an important decision and should not be based solely on advertisements. Current version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/bowling-green-immigration-attorney