

FOR TURKISH CITIZENS IN CAMBRIDGE

Turkish Consulate General in Boston: 2026 Guide from Cambridge

The subway route across the river, how to book, services and fees, birth and marriage registration, the apostille, military service and the time difference.

SHORT ANSWER

The Turkish Consulate General sits just across the river: 31 Saint James Avenue, Suite 840, Boston MA 02116, phone +1 857 250 47 00. Cambridge has one of the shortest consular trips in this whole series: Red Line from Harvard to Park Street in 10 minutes, Green Line to Arlington in about 4, then roughly 120 meters on foot. Because the district covers six states, appointments still fill up. Every service needs its own appointment on konsolosluk.gov.tr, and in-person applications are taken on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Contact and booking

DETAIL	VALUE
Address	31 Saint James Avenue, Suite 840, Boston, MA 02116
Phone	+1 857 250 47 00
Email	consulate.boston@mfa.gov.tr
Emergency (duty) line	+1 857 207 9284
Consular Call Center	+1 888 566 76 56, and around the clock +90 312 292 29 29
Office hours	Weekdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 5 p.m.
In-person application hours	Weekdays 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Consular district	Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Connecticut
Education Attaché	Same address, Suite 840; boston_ozel@meb.gov.tr
Commercial Attaché	43 Thorndike Street, Suite 1-4, Cambridge, MA 02141

- 1 konsolosluk.gov.tr → Randevu Al (book an appointment)
- 2 Consular Services for Turkish Citizens → Consulate General in Boston
- 3 Pick the service. Each service needs its own appointment. Visa business for non-citizens runs through a separate pre-application system.

The route from Cambridge

- **By subway:** Red Line from Harvard (Ashmont or Braintree direction) to Park Street, 10 minutes on the published schedule. Transfer at Park Street to a westbound Green Line train (B, C, D or E) and ride 4 minutes to Arlington. Arlington is about 0.1 mile from the building, roughly 120 meters. With the transfer and the wait it is a little over half an hour door to door; that last figure is our estimate, not a published time.
 - **From Central and Kendall/MIT:** the same route, Red Line to Park Street and Green Line to Arlington. Park Street is 4 minutes from Kendall/MIT and 6 from Central. The Orange Line stop at Back Bay is also about 0.3 mile from the consulate.
 - **On foot:** map distances are about 1.6 miles (2.6 km) from Kendall/MIT, 2 miles (3.2 km) from the MIT entrance at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, 2.6 miles (4.2 km) from Central Square and 4.4 miles (7 km) from Harvard Square. These are map calculations rather than official measurements; from the Kendall side it is walkable on a good day, and from Harvard the subway makes far more sense.
 - **The Commercial Attaché is already in Cambridge:** 43 Thorndike Street, Suite 1-4, Cambridge MA 02141. That office does no consular work, so do not go there for a passport or a civil registry matter; for commercial questions, though, you have a contact inside the city.
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Close by, so why are appointments full?

According to the consulate's own contact page, its district is six states: Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Connecticut. One office serves all of New England, and everyone arriving from Portland, Providence and Hartford comes through the same door. Living in Cambridge saves you a plane ticket and a hotel night; it does not save you a place in the queue. If your passport is expiring, or you have a dated obligation like the military service registration, do not leave the appointment to the last week.

Services and fees

SERVICE	HOW	FEE
Passport	In person only, by appointment	Ask for the current fee before your appointment
Turkish ID card	In person only, by appointment; not handled by mail	\$10.20 in cash; a replacement for a lost card is \$15.50
Birth registration	In person or by mail	Sending the documents to Türkiye costs \$35; the ID card is \$5 within 60 days of the birth and \$10.20 after that
Marriage registration	In person or by mail	Confirm the fee and the documents before you apply
Death registration	In person or by mail	Free
Powers of attorney and notarial acts	Only at the consulate building	Ask for the current fee

Of the amounts above, only the ID card, birth registration and death registration lines come from the consulate's own 2026 information notes. The fees for passports, powers of attorney, notarial acts and criminal record extracts are not published on those pages. Do not budget from another mission's price list; confirm the fees on the [consulate contact page](#) or by phone. Fees can also change during the year.

For a Turkish ID card: adults apply in person; a 15 to 18 year old comes with a parent; for a child under 15, the parent applies. Bring one 2x2 inch biometric photo taken within the last six months and the old ID card (without it, a passport, driver's license or marriage book works). Payment is cash. The new card is mailed to the consulate, and you can ask for a temporary ID if you need identification sooner.

Registering a Cambridge-born child with the Turkish civil registry

Conditions: at least one parent is a Turkish citizen, the child is under 18, and the birth took place in the six-state district. Payment is cash or a money order; personal and company checks are not accepted.

DOCUMENT	NOTE
☐ A certified copy of the birth certificate plus one photocopy	The short "birth record" is not accepted. Cambridge issues its own vital records: the City Clerk at 795 Massachusetts Ave., 1st Floor (Room 103), 617-349-4260; a certified copy is \$15 and "usually identification is not necessary". For a birth elsewhere in the state, the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics at 150 Mt. Vernon Street, 1st Floor, Dorchester MA 02125, (617) 740-2600
☐ Parents' identity documents	A Turkish ID card or passport
☐ Marriage certificate	If you are married; the marriage has to be registered first
☐ Translation	If a foreign parent's birth certificate is in neither English nor Turkish
☐ Dual citizenship form	Filled in at the appointment

Order at least two certified copies: one stays with the U.S. passport application and one goes for the apostille and the consulate. The hospital does not order the certificate for you. A child born in the United States is a U.S. citizen at birth.

Marriage registration and the Cambridge marriage license

Register a marriage performed in the United States with the Consulate General so that it is valid in Türkiye. In Cambridge the license comes from the city's own City Clerk: 795 Massachusetts Avenue, 1st Floor, 617-349-4260, cityclerk@cambridgema.gov. Both applicants apply in person, the fee is \$50 (since April 1, 2025), and the license is issued three days after you apply; either applicant can pick it up. The difference from Boston is that the Cambridge page mentions no appointment requirement for the license, but the marriage intention counter closes half an hour before the office does, so go in the morning. A valid photo ID is required as proof of age and, under state guidance, a passport works. We could not find on the Cambridge page whether the form asks for a Social Security number, so call 617-349-4260 and ask before you go. The license is valid 60 days, the ceremony has to take place in Massachusetts, and the three-day wait can be waived through the

court (total fees \$195). The ceremony at City Hall is by appointment only, and you need your marriage intention number before you can book it. A certified copy of the certificate is \$15.

Apostille: how it works in Massachusetts

One office issues the apostille and it is across the river: Secretary of the Commonwealth, Commissions Section, One Ashburton Place, Room 1719, Boston MA 02108. The fee is **\$6 per document**, among the lowest of any state. Take the Red Line to Park Street and walk toward Government Center, so this fits in one morning. Only the wet signature of a Massachusetts official is apostilled: a notary, a justice of the peace, a city or town clerk, a court clerk or the Registrar of Vital Records. That list **includes the Cambridge City Clerk**, so a document from 795 Massachusetts Avenue needs no extra round. Photocopied or scanned signatures are rejected, and a document issued in another state is apostilled there, not here. In person, up to 3 documents are processed at the counter; 4 or more are collected after 3 p.m. the next business day (anything left after 4 p.m. waits another day); by mail it takes 2 to 3 weeks, with a check payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and no credit cards. There are regional offices in Fall River and Springfield. Federal documents such as an FBI record or a naturalization certificate get their apostille from the U.S. Department of State instead: Form DS-4194, \$20 per document. For a university diploma the document first has to be notarized before a Massachusetts notary, because the university's own signature is not on the list. Phone 617-727-2836 (confirm on the official page).

Military service (askerlik)

- **Registration (yoklama):** men born in 2007 and anyone without a deferral must register through the consulate or e-Devlet by **December 31, 2026**.
- **Paid exemption from abroad (July 1 to December 31, 2026):** the equivalent in foreign currency of 472,653.60 Turkish lira, collected in dollars at the central bank rate on the day of payment. Whether the consulate adds a transfer fee is not stated on its published pages, so ask before your appointment. The amount changes on January 1, 2027.
- **Conditions:** working in the United States with a residence or work permit, at least 3 years (1,095 days) of work abroad excluding time spent in Türkiye, completing the ministry's distance training at dovizle.msb.gov.tr, and living in the consular district. Cambridge is inside it. Applications are in person and by appointment only.
- **Dual citizens:** people born in the United States, or who arrived as minors and naturalized, can defer until the end of age 35 once the U.S. citizenship is recorded with the Turkish civil registry; no work requirement applies, three years abroad is enough.
- **F-1 students and researchers:** deferrals go through the Education Attaché, boston_ozel@meb.gov.tr. Given how many students live in Cambridge, this is one of the busiest desks in the region, so expect correspondence to slow at the start of a term. Registration and deferral are two separate calendars; do not mix them up.
- **Timing:** December appointments fill early, and living across the river does not reserve one for you.

Time difference and flights

Türkiye stays on UTC+3 all year while Cambridge is on Eastern Time and observes daylight saving. The difference is 7 hours until November 1, 2026 and 8 hours from November 1, 2026 to March 14, 2027. When it is 9 a.m. in Cambridge it is 4 p.m. in Istanbul now and 5 p.m. after November 1. That means office hours in Türkiye fall between 2 and 9 a.m. here, so plan an early morning if you need to reach a government office or a bank. Turkish Airlines flies nonstop between Boston Logan (BOS) and Istanbul (IST) in about 11 hours; Massport and the airline publish different frequencies, so check days and times with [the airline](#) directly. The cleanest route to the airport is the Red Line from Harvard to South Station (13 minutes) and then the Silver Line SL1, which is free on the way back from Logan. The alternative is Park Street and Government Center to the Blue Line, Airport station and the free terminal shuttle. There is no Logan Express route from Cambridge.

DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH YOUR U.S. IMMIGRATION MATTERS

The consulate handles Türkiye-related business. Your U.S. visa, green card or citizenship applications belong to USCIS and the U.S. Department of State. Before you travel to Türkiye with a pending green card application, check your advance parole status: leaving without it can be treated as abandoning the application, with limited exceptions such as H-1B and L-1. That is the point students and researchers on long summer breaks need to watch most closely.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN CAMBRIDGE

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Cambridge and the surrounding area, in Turkish and English.

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