

FOR TURKISH CITIZENS IN CHICAGO

Turkish Consulate General in Chicago: Services Guide 2026

Passports, ID cards, birth and marriage registration, military service, power of attorney and the apostille. How to book and what to watch for.

SHORT ANSWER

The consulate is in the city itself: 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Suite 2900 (NBC Tower, 29th floor), Chicago, IL 60611. Phone +1 312 263 0644, with an after-hours emergency line on +1 773 386 3213. In-person service is by appointment only, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, booked at konsolosluk.gov.tr. Because the consular district covers thirteen states, appointment slots fill early. An Illinois document bound for Türkiye gets its apostille from the Secretary of State's Index Department, 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 100, for \$2 per document.

Contact and booking

ITEM	DETAILS
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611 (NBC Tower, 29th floor)
Phone	+1 312 263 0644 · after-hours emergency +1 773 386 3213
E-mail and fax	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr · fax +1 312 263 1449
Office hours	Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
In-person service	By appointment only, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Phone enquiries	2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Consular Call Center (24/7)	+90 312 292 29 29
Consular district	13 states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin
Attaché	Education Attaché at the same address, chicago@meb.gov.tr

- 1 konsolosluk.gov.tr → Randevu Al
- 2 Türk Vatandaşları İçin Konsolosluk İşlemleri → Chicago
- 3 Choose the service. The "Randevu Al" button on the consulate's own site opens the same system, where you can check or cancel an appointment.

If you live in Chicago you have the shortest trip of any reader in this series: no travel to another city, let alone another state. There is a flip side. People from twelve other states, Detroit, Minneapolis and Cincinnati among them, share the same calendar, and slots close weeks ahead. Living here buys you a short journey, not a short wait: open the booking screen the day you realize you need something, not in the last month of your passport. Cancelled slots go back into the system, so checking the screen on several consecutive days pays off.

Passports and ID cards

A passport is issued in person only, by appointment, because fingerprints are taken; there is no postal route. The Turkish ID card is also in person, by appointment. Fees change by service and by year: confirm the current schedule with the consulate or the call center before your appointment rather than relying on figures found online.

Birth and marriage registration

- **The document:** when you register a Chicago-born child or a marriage made here with the Turkish civil registry, use a certified long-form copy.
 - **Birth record:** from the Cook County Clerk or the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). At the Clerk a certified copy is \$15 for the first and \$4 for each additional copy, printed while you wait if you apply in person. Ask for certified copies; photocopies will not do.
 - **Marriage record:** a certified copy from the Cook County Clerk. The license itself is \$60, both of you apply in person, it takes effect one day after issue, stays valid for 60 days and works only for a ceremony in Cook County.
 - Then get the document **apostilled** (below).
 - To make the marriage valid in Türkiye as well, register it with the consulate. If you change your name, update your USCIS and SSA records too.
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Military service

- **Registration (yoklama):** men born in 2007 and anyone with no deferment must register by December 31, 2026, through the consulate or e-Devlet.
- **Paid military service (dövizle askerlik), July 1 to December 31, 2026:** the foreign-currency equivalent of 472,653.60 TL. The Chicago consulate collects it in U.S. dollars at the Turkish central bank rate on the day of payment, plus a transfer fee; ask the consulate for the current amount. The amount changes on January 1, 2027, and late-December slots are the hardest to get.
- **Conditions:** work in the U.S. under a residence or work permit, at least 3 years (1,095 days) of work abroad not counting time in Türkiye, completing the Ministry of Defence remote training at dovizle.msb.gov.tr, and living inside the consulate's district. Applications are in person, by appointment.
- **Dual citizens:** those born in the U.S., or who came before 18 and naturalized, can defer until the end of age 35. Their U.S. citizenship must be registered with the Turkish civil registry first.
- **F-1 students:** defer through the Education Attaché in the same building, chicago@meb.gov.tr.

Power of attorney

Issued at the consulate building only. If it is for a sale, an inheritance or a case in Türkiye, get the wording from your lawyer beforehand, because the appointment itself is short. The fee depends on the matter; ask for the current amount when you book.

The apostille: an Illinois document for use in Türkiye

- 1 Get the original first.** A certified copy of a birth record from the Cook County Clerk or IDPH, of a marriage record from the Cook County Clerk, or of a divorce record from the Cook County Circuit Clerk.
- 2 If notarization is needed** (a power of attorney, affidavit or declaration), it must be done by an Illinois notary. Illinois cannot certify the signature of an out-of-state official or notary, so a document notarized in Hammond, Indiana, for instance, cannot be apostilled here. Do not take a document signed by a circuit clerk or a judge to a notary; it is already an official record.
- 3 Apostille:** Illinois Secretary of State, Index Department, 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 100, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-814-8218, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (the last half hour is document review only). The fee is **\$2 per document**, and every document needs its own. Pay with a single check or money order made out to the Illinois Secretary of State; ask the office about cash and cards.

ROUTE	HOW	TIME
In person, Index Department	160 N. LaSalle St., Suite 100	While you wait, first come first served
In person, Chicago Flagship	125 W. Monroe St., 312-814-5896	While you wait
In the suburbs	Melrose Park (1903 N. Mannheim Rd), Lake Zurich (951 S. Rand Rd), Aurora (970 N. Lake St, Suite B)	While you wait
By mail	Application for Authentication form, the original documents and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Index Department	7 to 14 business days

- Federal documents, such as an FBI background check or a naturalization certificate, are apostilled by the U.S. Department of State's Office of Authentications instead, on Form DS-4194, at \$20 per document.
- An apostille does not translate the document; a sworn translation may still be needed in Türkiye. Türkiye has been a party to the Hague Apostille Convention since 1985, so no further consular legalization is needed.

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE CONSULATE

- The consulate is closed on U.S. federal holidays as well as Turkish public holidays. Its online announcements page is not kept current, so a relative travelling in from out of state should call the call center first.
- At \$2 a document it is worth apostilling several certified copies of a birth certificate, marriage certificate or diploma in one visit. If you do two errands in a day, put the consular appointment in the morning and the apostille in the afternoon.

DO NOT MIX IT UP WITH YOUR U.S. IMMIGRATION MATTERS

The consulate handles Türkiye-related business. Your U.S. visa, green card or citizenship applications are matters for USCIS and the U.S. State Department. If you have a green card application pending, check your advance parole before you travel to Türkiye. If you naturalize, remember to report your U.S. citizenship to the Turkish civil registry.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN CHICAGO

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

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Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

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