

FOR TURKISH RESIDENTS OF COVINGTON

Consular and Apostille Matters from Covington 2026

There is no Turkish mission in Indiana, the in-person window is two and a half hours a day, and that window is in another time zone. In exchange, the first stop in the apostille chain is inside the town and the last one works by mail.

SHORT ANSWER

All of Indiana, this town included, falls within the jurisdiction of the **Consulate General of Türkiye in Chicago**; the mission's own site names **13 Midwest states** as its area of responsibility and Indiana appears second on that list on two separate pages. **There is no Turkish mission inside Indiana**, so from here a consular errand is not an afternoon but a planned journey. And there is a small piece of arithmetic a reader of this guide has to know: **the consulate is on Central time and you are on Eastern**. That means **you have to add an hour to every published time**. The site gives the telephone application window as 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; **here that means 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, and calling an hour early means a call nobody answers. **We print no distance figure**, because none came from a source this round.

Which mission, which hours

ITEM	DETAIL
Mission	Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Chicago
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr. (NBC Tower), Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611, 29th floor
Switchboard	+1 312 263 0644
Out-of-hours emergency line	+1 773 386 3213
E-mail	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Consular call center, 24 hours, 7 days	+90 312 292 29 29
Working hours, in the mission's own clock	Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Working hours, in your clock	10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Visits by appointment	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the mission's clock, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in yours

ITEM	DETAIL
Telephone applications	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the mission's clock, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in yours
Consul General	Tahir Bora Atatanır
Area of responsibility	13 Midwest states; Indiana is on the list

ONE HOUR: THE DETAIL MOST EASILY MISSED IN THIS GUIDE

- **The published time is not your time.** A reader in the north-western corner of the state can read the mission's hours exactly as printed; **you cannot.** The arithmetic runs one way and it is simple: **add an hour to what you see on the screen.**
- **The telephone application window is 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in your clock.** Reading the published time and calling at 2:00 p.m. means calling an hour early, and most of the time nobody answers.
- **The in-person window is two and a half hours in the mission's clock,** that is 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in yours. If you are making a long journey, try to take an appointment **at the start of that window;** one booked at the end can be lost to a small delay.
- **The call center removes the difference entirely.** **+90 312 292 29 29** answers around the clock seven days a week, so whatever the hour you can find out which documents an errand requires. **That is the first thing to do before you travel.**
- **Cancel the moment you know you cannot go.** One mission covers the entire Midwest and an appointment slot is genuinely valuable at this distance.

Area of responsibility, and one distinction

By the mission's own list its area of responsibility covers Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. One mission covers the whole Midwest, and the only honorary consulate general in the Midwest is in another state. **One distinction worth drawing here:** you do not live in the state the consulate sits in. The Turkish side of your affairs runs there, but your license, your taxes, your schools and your property tax are in Indiana. **Going to the consulate does not make you a resident of that state.**

What runs through the mission

- Birth registration and civil registry matters; marriage registration and death registration.
- Passport renewal and first passports; Turkish citizenship matters, **including reporting U.S. citizenship to the civil registry.**
- Military service matters; notarial acts, powers of attorney and certification of signatures.
- Judicial matters, criminal record certificates and service of documents; e-Devlet credentials; Turkish driving license renewal.
- Working life and social security matters; estate matters.
- **Almost all of them run by appointment, and we do not print the document lists here.** Each procedure has its own fee and its own document list and we could not verify them one by one this round. **Coming back**

short of a document costs not one day from here but two; confirm the list from the appointment menu and the call center.

- 1 Try e-Devlet.** Civil registry, address and some document matters can be handled remotely. **For a household in a small settlement this is the one item that can remove a journey altogether.**
- 2 Call the call center, +90 312 292 29 29.** It answers around the clock seven days a week, so the time zone problem disappears and it is the fastest way to learn which documents you need.
- 3 Ask about the courier or mail route.** Some procedures run on documents sent in; ask which ones are accepted and do not send documents on your own initiative.
- 4 Finish the apostille first.** An Indiana document bound for Türkiye has to be apostilled in the state capital, and **that office works by appointment only**, though it also works by mail.
- 5 Finish several errands in one journey.** Gather every passport, civil registry and notarial matter in the household into the same day or consecutive days. **The journey is made once.**
- 6 Take a morning appointment** and read the time in Central. The in-person window is not negotiable.

THE ATTACHÉ OFFICES IN THE SAME BUILDING

- **Office of the Educational Attaché:** same address and floor, +1 312 263 0644 ext. 811, chicago@meb.gov.tr. A school registration or diploma equivalence in Türkiye needs no separate city and **can be added to the same appointment day.**
- **Office of the Commercial Attaché:** same address and floor, ext. 888 and 812, chicago@trade.gov.tr.
- **Office of the Press Attaché:** same address and floor, ext. 835, chicago@iletisim.gov.tr.
- **Having all three in the same building is worth even more to someone traveling from a distance.** Three doors can be knocked on in a single day, but place the appointments in **consecutive half-days** rather than consecutive hours.

Military service: we print no figures, and we say why

- Military service matters run through the consulate and sit as a separate heading in the mission's own procedure menu.
- **We print no amount, no age limit and no period here:** the conditions and fees for paid and foreign-currency military service change from period to period and we **could not verify** the current position from an official source this round. Planning against a wrong figure would be the worst service this guide could give you.
- **The right step:** call the call center and ask what applies to your own year of birth and status. The amounts circulating on forums and private advisory sites generally belong to earlier periods, and some steps cannot be undone once payment is made.
- **The call center being open around the clock solves two problems at once here:** the **seven hour** difference with Türkiye and the **one hour** difference with the mission. For someone living at a distance that is also practical advice, because a journey made on wrong information costs two days from here.
- **If you have naturalized:** for dual citizens, having reported U.S. citizenship to the Turkish civil registry is generally a precondition on the military service side.

- **If you need a power of attorney, do not break the order.** Documents letting someone act for you in Türkiye may need notarization, and for a document heading to an apostille that step comes first. **We could not find a confirmed free notary in this town or county;** we are not saying there is none, we say the research did not find one. Ask the price before you use a paid route and make sure the notarial certificate is complete.
- **Muster and address records:** check that your address here and your marital status appear correctly in the civil registry; some of this can be done through e-Devlet.

Apostille: seen from here, the right route is the mail

Both Türkiye and the United States are parties to the Hague Apostille Convention, so a document issued here needs **an apostille rather than consular legalization** to be used in Türkiye. On the Hague Conference's list of competent authorities the authority shown for Indiana is the **Indiana Secretary of State**, and the only authentication office in the state is at **302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018**. **It has no branches**, it works **by appointment only**, the fee is **\$2 per certificate issued** and is non-refundable, and the normal turnaround is **one to two business days**. The full table, the payment methods and the telephone conflict are in **our official offices directory**. **But the real news for a reader of this page is this: the office also works by mail**, and for an appointment-only office with a single branch that means being spared a day-long journey.

FOUR THINGS WHEN YOU CHOOSE THE MAIL ROUTE

- **A self-addressed stamped return envelope is required.** Do not send anything before you prepare it, or your document will sit there.
- **Do not skip the office's own warning: postal service deliveries are not made directly to this office** and that can cause delay; for a time-sensitive document the office recommends a private courier. **Do not choose ordinary mail for a document that has to reach a consular appointment.**
- **Timing:** documents arriving before noon go out the next business day, those arriving in the afternoon within two business days; **requests over 30 documents can take longer.**
- **If you go in person, take more than you think.** With an appointment **up to 10 documents** are processed while you wait, without one **five**. Having come that far, check your list twice so nothing is left behind.
- **No clock problem here:** the office is on Eastern and so are you, so read the appointment time as printed. **But there is an hour's difference on the consular side**, so take that into account when you put two appointments in the same week.

THE FOUR RULES THAT HIT A TURKISH READER DIRECTLY

- **The office does not translate, and the translation has to be notarized first.** The agency's own answer is that it does not translate documents; you have them translated and **after the translation is notarized** the work can be done. **That is the most important line in this section for a Turkish reader.** The order is: get the document, translate it if needed, notarize the translation, then send or take it for the apostille.
 - **A marriage license is a two-stop errand, and in this town the first stop is inside the city.** A marriage license must first be **certified by the circuit court clerk of the county where the marriage took place**; only then does it go to the state authority. If you married in this county the first stop is **the county courthouse at 301 4th Street**, and you can get the certification and post the envelope on the same day. **If you married in another Indiana county, the first stop is that county.**
 - **Only Indiana records are authenticated.** A birth certificate issued by another state, or a diploma obtained there, goes to that state's own authority. **A household working or married across the state line should know this from the start.**
 - **Federal documents are a different door.** A certificate of naturalization, a U.S. passport and a federal criminal record go to the **authentications office of the U.S. Department of State**, not to the state. A document issued by a federal court is certified by that court's clerk.
 - **The office's own capitalized warning:** certificates issued by this office **cannot be used inside the United States**. If an Indiana institution asks you for an apostilled document, what it wants is probably not an apostille; do not pay before you ask.
 - **Which documents are fee-exempt: two official pages do not give the same list.** One names birth and death certificates, adoption records, student transcripts and diplomas; the same office's question and answer page names **Indiana-issued** birth and death certificates, **Indiana school records**, adoption records and documents issued by the authority itself. **The two lists do not match**; ask by telephone before you send the envelope.
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- **The format changed in 2022:** from **1 July 2022** the office uses the Hague Conference's single model apostille and **no longer separates apostille requests from authentication requests**. The certificate is on standard size paper, **in three languages**, attached with **two staples** in front of the page carrying the signature and seal, and carries **its own number** for verification. **The gold foil seal is gone**; do not look at an old document and go hunting for one.
 - **Notarization is needed for most documents**, but by the office's own account **it is not needed for marriage, divorce and birth certificates**. On a notarized document the certificate has to be complete: the notary's signature, seal, jurisdiction, the date and the name of the signer.
 - **Do not break the order.** You obtain the document first, translate and notarize it if needed, **and the apostille comes last**. Nothing can be changed on a document once it carries an apostille.

The first link in the chain: the document itself

Indiana has **two separate routes** to a birth certificate and which one you need matters for an apostille. **The county route is faster:** the state's own question and answer page says you will get the document sooner if you order through the county where you were born. **But the long form comes only from the state**, and **an apostille needs the state copy**, so the quick copy from the county may not do for that errand. There are two

pieces of good news for a Turkish reader: **a foreign passport is on the primary identification list and is sufficient on its own**, and the statute says a local health officer **must issue a certificate of an applicant's own birth registration. No Social Security number is required**; the Social Security card sits on the secondary list as one of two documents and is never asked for alone.

NOT THE NUMBER, THESE ARE THE REAL OBSTACLES

- **There is a conflict between the statute and practice and we print it.** The statute says a local health officer may issue the certificate **regardless of where the record is kept**. But the statute says **may**, not **must**, and some counties in this state state that they issue certificates only for births that occurred in their own county. **We take no side**: call your county health department before you set out. **We could not read this county's own identification policy**, so we do not print a list for the county counter.
- **Direct interest.** Who may request the certificate is limited: a documented and verifiable financial or legal interest, or **close direct kinship** with the person on the record. Grandparents face an extra requirement, a spouse must show proof of marriage, a guardian a sealed guardianship order. **For your own birth certificate those tests fall away**, because the statute obliges the officer to issue it, and a refusal **is subject to judicial review**.
- **The order cannot be completed without the parents' names**: the name at birth, the date of birth, the place of birth, **the mother's full maiden name and the father's full name** are required. For a reader arriving from Türkiye, that is something to ask the older generation in advance.
- **The search fee is non-refundable.** If no record is found you receive a certificate of no record and your money does not come back, **so entering the details correctly is money. We publish no vital records fee**, because we could not find a verified figure.
- **The certificate is mailed only to the address on your identification.** For someone who has just moved that is a real trap: if the address on your identification is the old one, the certificate goes there.
- **We could not find a procedure for a delayed birth registration**; the state's own page says the process may change and directs you to a page we could not reach. **We describe no procedure**; call the state unit.

On the marriage side the order runs like this: the license comes from the circuit court clerk of **the county where one of you resides**, so if you live here your counter is the Fountain County Clerk, 301 4th Street, **765-793-6230. Both of you must attend in person**, the license is valid sixty days, there is no waiting period and it is valid only inside Indiana. A **passport** is among the accepted proofs of date of birth. **A number is asked for** and the state judiciary's own page says exactly this: you will be asked to give your Social Security number, but your card may not be required. **No official Indiana source says what a person who has never had a number should do, and we invent no procedure**; call the clerk before you go. And the most critical sentence: **if your documents are in a language other than English, they may need to be translated and notarized before they are presented to the clerk**. So do not take your Turkish birth certificate straight to the counter; **sworn translation first, then the notary, then the appointment**. On fees, the statute gives **fifteen dollars** for the license and **ten dollars** for the certificate; but the state judiciary's page says some offices also charge a **four dollar document fee** and that each certified copy is **four dollars**, and adds that **most counties want cash. We could not find a published fee for this county**, so we print no figure.

Time difference and flights to Istanbul

PERIOD	TIME ZONE	DIFFERENCE WITH TÜRKİYE
9 October 2026 to 31 October 2026	Eastern daylight time	Türkiye is 7 hours ahead
After 1 November 2026	Eastern standard time	Türkiye is 8 hours ahead
The state's north-western corner, for comparison	Central time	Türkiye 8 hours ahead, 9 in winter

- Türkiye stays on the same clock all year and does not observe daylight saving, so the gap shifts by itself twice a year **on the U.S. side**. The 2026 dates are **8 March** and **1 November**; **put 1 November 2026 in your calendar**, because it is very easy to slip an hour while working out a connection when you buy a ticket.
- **The practical window:** 8:00 a.m. here is currently 3:00 p.m. in Türkiye, 4:00 p.m. after November. The easiest time to speak to family or a government office in Türkiye is **the morning here**. The trap runs the other way: if an institution in Türkiye works weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the window from here starts after midnight, which is why the call center and e-Devlet also solve the time difference.
- **You convert nothing for state institutions.** The apostille office, the immigration court, the state licensing agency, the passport information line and the statewide legal help line are all on Eastern, which is your time. **That is a convenience a reader in the north-western corner of the state does not have. The one exception is the consulate**, and there the direction reverses: you add an hour.
- **The state is divided internally.** Most of it is on Eastern, **twelve counties** on Central. The federal regulation describes the boundary by county lines and **this county is south of that block, so it is on Eastern**; being near the western edge does not put you on Central. Under the regulation, **municipalities lying on the boundary line are treated as Central. Do not trust lists circulating online**; some third-party pages give different county counts and contradict the state's own list.
- **The honest answer on flights: there is no nonstop from Indiana to Istanbul.** The nearest scheduled airport to this town is **Indianapolis International Airport** and Türkiye does not appear on its 2026 nonstop list; **its only nonstop to Europe is Dublin**, reported to have risen to five flights a week from April 2026.
- **The Dublin connection has one advantage:** it is one of the two airports in Europe offering U.S. preclearance, so on the way back the U.S. entry formalities are done in Dublin and you arrive here like a domestic passenger.
- **The nonstop departs from Chicago:** the Turkish flag carrier's own site gives **two nonstop flights a day** between **Chicago O'Hare** and Istanbul, with a flight time of about **10 hours 40 minutes**.
- **So there are two realistic shapes from here:** either one connection from the nearest airport, or a road leg to Chicago and the nonstop from there. **We do not say which is shorter**, because no distance or driving time came from a source this round; do that arithmetic with your own address.
- **The Chicago option has a side benefit:** the city the nonstop leaves from is the same city the Consulate General sits in. That makes it sensible to put a consular appointment **the day before** the flight. Do not put it on the same day, and read the appointment time **with an hour added. Chicago is on Central**, so read every time on the ticket in the clock of its own city.
- **Be generous with the connection.** On a short domestic leg, delay, baggage and a terminal change can cost you the transatlantic flight, and the next one may mean **the following day**.

- **Solve the ground transport for the day of your flight before you buy the ticket.** There is no route to the airport from here and **we could not confirm airport parking charges**, so we print no figure. **The interstate passenger train does not stop in this town**; the line runs three days a week and its stops include two neighboring county seats. **We print no day or time**, because the sources contradict each other and the only official timetable we could find carries an obsolete date.
- **The identification you will use on an international flight is your passport.**

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

The consulate handles matters relating to Türkiye. Your U.S. visa, green card or citizenship applications are the business of federal agencies. If you have a pending green card application, check your advance parole position before traveling to Türkiye. If you naturalize, remember to report your U.S. citizenship to the Turkish civil registry; for dual citizens that is also a precondition for military service matters. And for Turkish documents you will use in the United States for your immigration file, the direction reverses: those are apostilled in Türkiye and submitted here with a certified English translation.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN COVINGTON

Have a question about your immigration status?

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