

FOR TURKISH CITIZENS IN EVANSTON

Turkish Consulate General in Chicago: Services Guide 2026, One Morning from Evanston

Passports, Turkish ID cards, birth and marriage registration, military service, powers of attorney and apostilles. How to book, three ways to get there and what to watch for.

SHORT ANSWER

The consulate is at 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. From Evanston the trip is short: about 12.6 miles and 25 minutes by car, or around an hour on the CTA. The apostille on Illinois documents for use in Türkiye is \$2 per document and can be done by mail.

Contact and appointments

ITEM	DETAIL
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611 (NBC Tower, 29th floor)
Phone	+1 312 263 0644 · after hours +1 773 386 3213
Email and fax	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr · fax +1 312 263 1449
Office hours	Weekdays 9 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
Information by phone	2 to 4 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
Attache	The Education Attache is at the same address, chicago@meb.gov.tr

- 1 konsolosluk.gov.tr → Randevu Al (book an appointment)
- 2 Consular services for Turkish citizens → Consulate General in Chicago

- 3 Pick the service. The "Randevu Al" button on the consulate's own site goes to the same system, and you can check or cancel your appointment there.

Getting there from Evanston

HOW	ROUTE	APPROXIMATE TIME
Car	The Sheridan Road and Lake Shore Drive corridor, about 12.6 miles	25 minutes off peak
CTA (with a transfer)	Purple Line from Davis to Howard (6 minutes), Red Line from Howard to Grand (34 to 35 minutes), then half a mile east on foot	An hour to an hour and ten minutes door to door
Metra UP-N	Davis Street to Ogilvie in about 30 minutes, then a 1.1 mile walk or a short bus	Usually no faster than the CTA because of the walk

- We calculated these times ourselves; they are not official figures and vary with traffic and the timetable. They are still enough to plan a morning.
- **Transit is the easy option:** the Davis station is downtown and both the Purple Line and Metra UP-N are there. CTA is \$2.50 one way; on Metra all three Evanston stations are in Zone 2, at \$3.75 one way and \$7.50 for a day pass.
- **If you drive:** your appointment falls between 9:30 a.m. and noon, which is the morning rush. Parking around NBC Tower is on top of that; we did not research the rate, but expect downtown prices. If it is your first visit, the train is the lower-risk choice.
- **Timing:** applications are only taken in the morning. If your appointment is at 9:30, leave Davis by 8:15 at the latest and allow for the transfer wait.
- **One note about the Loop:** State/Lake station is closed for renovation until 2029. If you use the Red Line or the Purple Express and transfer in the Loop, go through Clark/Lake or Washington/Wabash.
- **Being close does not make the appointment easier.** The consular district covers thirteen states and people coming from Detroit, Minneapolis or Cincinnati share the same calendar; appointments close weeks in advance. A short trip does not mean a short queue: look at the booking screen the day you realize you need something, and do not wait for the last month of your passport. Cancelled slots fall back into the system, so checking several days in a row pays off.

Passports, ID cards and powers of attorney

A passport is issued in person by appointment only; fingerprints are taken, so there is no mail option. A Turkish ID card is the same. A power of attorney is drawn up only inside the consulate building: if you need one for a sale, an inheritance matter or a court case in Türkiye, get the text from your lawyer beforehand, because the appointment slot is short. Fees vary by service and by year; confirm the current list with the consulate or the call center before your appointment rather than trusting old figures found online.

Birth and marriage registration

- **The document:** when you register a child born in Evanston, or a marriage made here, in the Turkish civil registry, use a certified long-form copy.

- **The birth certificate, the Evanston convenience:** birth certificates registered in the city are issued by **the city's own City Clerk**, at 909 Davis Street, second floor, weekdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 847-448-4311. The first copy is \$15, each additional one \$4, and USPS Priority shipping is \$20. So you do not have to go to the county. Registering a new birth takes 1 to 3 weeks.
- **An ID warning:** for a vital record the City Clerk asks for an unexpired government-issued photo ID, and the page lists a driver's license, a passport, a FOID card, an active duty military ID, a veteran health card and a federal tribal ID. **A foreign passport and a consular ID do not appear on that list** (they do appear on the notary service list). If all you hold is a Turkish passport, call 847-448-4311 before you go and ask which ID they accept.
- **For a baby born outside Evanston:** the Clerk's own answer is clear, it does not issue a record registered outside the city. For a baby born in Skokie or Chicago you go to the Cook County Clerk, with the Skokie Courthouse as the nearest counter (5600 W. Old Orchard Road, Room 149, 847-470-7233); the fee is \$15 for the first copy and \$4 for each extra. For a birth elsewhere in Illinois it is IDPH, and a mail application takes about 12 weeks.
- **If there is a spelling error:** the City Clerk can make a one-time, minor correction. A hospital typing error goes to the Endeavor Health medical records department, and every other correction goes through IDPH. Make sure from the start that the spelling of the name on the birth certificate matches your passport and your immigration file.
- **The marriage certificate:** the license comes from the Cook County Clerk, with Skokie as the nearest counter, and that counter appears to require an appointment (call to confirm the hours). The license is \$60, both parties apply in person, it takes effect the day after it is issued and is valid 60 days. **The ceremony, though, can be performed by the Evanston City Clerk** (booking cityclerk@cityofevanston.org or 847-448-8189, with up to 30 minutes allowed), and the Mayor performs ceremonies on request. The fee is not stated on the page we read, so ask when you book.
- Then you get the **apostille** (below) and register the document with the Consulate General. If you change your name, update your USCIS and SSA records too; the SSA office is in town, at 2116 Green Bay Road.

Military service (askerlik)

- **Registration (yoklama):** men born in 2007 and anyone liable without a deferment must complete registration by December 31, 2026, through the consulate or e-Devlet.
- **Paid exemption, July 1 to December 31, 2026:** the foreign-currency equivalent of 472,653.60 Turkish lira. The Consulate General in Chicago collects it in dollars at the Central Bank rate on the day of payment, plus a transfer fee; ask the consulate for the current amount. The figure changes on January 1, 2027, and late December appointments are the first to fill.
- **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, completion of the Ministry of National Defense [distance course](#), and residence in the consular district. Evanston is in Illinois, so you meet that last condition directly. Applications are in person by appointment only.
- **Dual citizens:** people born in the United States, or who came as minors and naturalized, can defer until the end of age 35. The U.S. citizenship has to be registered in the Turkish civil registry first. Multiple citizens do not have to meet the work condition; 3 years abroad is enough.
- **F-1 students:** deferment goes through the Chicago Education Attache at chicago@meb.gov.tr. The attache is in the same building as the consulate, so a student at the university can cover both errands in an hour's

trip from the Davis station.

Apostilles: an Illinois document for use in Türkiye

- 1 Get the original first.** A birth certificate registered in Evanston from the city's City Clerk, one registered elsewhere in Cook County from the Cook County Clerk or IDPH, a marriage certificate from the Cook County Clerk, and a divorce decree from the Cook County Circuit Clerk, all as certified copies.
- 2 If notarization is needed** (private documents such as a power of attorney, an undertaking or a declaration), have it notarized by an Illinois notary. A notary from another state cannot be authenticated in Illinois. Do not take a document signed by a court clerk or a judge to a notary. The City Clerk's notary service was temporarily unavailable on the day of our research and the office publishes a list of local notaries; when the service is open the fee is \$5 per sealed page.
- 3 The 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 each document needs its own apostille. 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
By mail (the most practical)	The Application for Authentication form, the original documents and a stamped self-addressed envelope, to the Index Department	7 to 14 business days
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 · within walking distance of the Index Department	While you wait
Suburban counters	Melrose Park (1903 N. Mannheim Rd), Lake Zurich (951 S. Rand Rd), Aurora (970 N. Lake St, Suite B) · all three farther from Evanston than downtown	While you wait

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE CONSULATE

- The smartest route from Evanston is the mail: if you are not in a hurry, post the documents and save a trip and a day off. For something urgent, both downtown offices are half an hour away on Metra or the Purple Line and are within walking distance of each other, while the three suburban counters are farther off.
- Because it is only \$2 per document, it makes sense to apostille several certified copies of a birth certificate, a marriage certificate and a diploma in one go.
- The Index Department is in the Loop and the consulate is north of the river; if you want to cover both in one trip, put the consulate appointment in the morning and the apostille in the afternoon. Call first to confirm the office is doing apostilles that day.
- The consulate is closed on both U.S. federal holidays and Turkish public holidays. The announcement list on its site is not kept current, so if a relative is traveling in from out of town, have them confirm with the call center.
- Federal documents such as an FBI criminal record check or a certificate of naturalization are apostilled not by Illinois but by the U.S. Department of State Office of Authentications: Form DS-4194, \$20 per document. An apostille does not translate the document; a sworn translation may still be needed in Türkiye.

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

The consulate handles matters relating to Türkiye. Your U.S. visa, green card or citizenship applications are matters for USCIS and the U.S. Department of State. Türkiye has been a party to the Hague Apostille Convention since 1985, so an apostilled Illinois document does not need separate consular certification. A marriage license on its own gives no immigration status and no work permission. If a green card application is pending, check your advance parole position before you travel to Türkiye. And if you naturalize, remember to report your U.S. citizenship to the Turkish civil registry; for dual citizens that is a precondition for a military service deferment.

TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN EVANSTON

Have a question about your immigration status?



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

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