

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · HEFLIN

# Turkish Consular Business from Heflin: 2026 Guide

Your mission is in Houston. The general service window is mornings only, visa applications have a separate thirty minute window, and all three attache offices are in the same building.

## SHORT ANSWER

Alabama is in the consular district of the **Turkish Consulate General in Houston**, and this is not an assumption: the mission's own site lists its district as **eight states** and Alabama appears on both of two separate pages; in the same round **the pages of the other five Turkish consulates general in the United States were also scanned and none of them contains the word Alabama. There is no Turkish authority in Heflin where you can handle your business** and the trip leaves the state. Two things up front, because both mean a wasted trip: **there is a single published window for general consular business and it is mornings only, and visa applications are taken separately, in a thirty minute window.** There is a third thing for a reader setting out from a small settlement: **there is no flight and no train departing from this town, and no fixed route bus either**, so this trip starts not at your door but from another settlement.

## Mission details

| ITEM                                                | INFORMATION                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mission                                             | Consulate General of the Republic of Turkiye in Houston                                                                                          |
| Address                                             | 5333 Westheimer Road, Suite 1050, Houston, TX 77056                                                                                              |
| Switchboard                                         | +1 346 439 65 60                                                                                                                                 |
| After hours emergency and duty officer              | +1 832 774 18 61. The contact page gives <b>the same number</b> under two separate headings, so it is a single line                              |
| Consular call center, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week | <b>+1 888 566 76 56</b>                                                                                                                          |
| Email                                               | consulate.houston@mfa.gov.tr                                                                                                                     |
| Office hours                                        | <b>Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b> The mission publishes no afternoon counter hour for general consular business                            |
| Visa application hours                              | <b>2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.</b> , a separate window of thirty minutes. The mission's own instruction asks you to make an appointment before coming |
| Consul General                                      | Cagri Sakar. <b>Diplomatic assignments change</b> , so check current information before you go                                                   |

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## All three attache offices share the building

In the previous round of this series the attache offices were in **a different building** from the Consulate General and that guide sent readers to two separate addresses. **In Houston the situation is different and we do not carry that warning over:** the Religious Services, Education and Commercial attache offices all publish the Consulate General's address. So you can handle your child's equivalency business and your consular business **in the same building; but the appointments are separate**, and because the general window is mornings only, work out in advance whether they fit into one day.

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## The trip does not start at your door

- **There is no airport with scheduled service in this town, no passenger train stop and no fixed route bus.** Transit works **on demand** and is arranged by phone; the hours are **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, the fare is **\$1.00 per trip**, and the service area is **the town's police jurisdiction**. So a trip out of state does not begin on that channel.
  - **We publish no distance or driving time figure**, because none came from a source in this round. **The single exception is the town's own promotional material:** the town's own page writes its distance to the two large centers to its east and west as **72 miles and 75 miles**, and **the two are in two different states**. **Those two figures come from the town's own page, they are not our measurement, and we add no driving time beside them.** We publish no other distance.
  - **The practical result:** compare airports from your own address, because **the option that suits you may be out of state**. When you search for tickets, compare both directions.
  - **You do not need to convert time zones:** the Consulate General is **in the same time zone**, so the published appointment and telephone hours are directly your hours. But the window is narrow; keep that in mind.
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## Which services run through the mission

The transaction headings in the mission's own application menu show what actually runs through it: birth notification and civil registry transactions, marriage notification, passport transactions, military service transactions, notarial transactions and powers of attorney, Turkish citizenship transactions, estate transactions, and education and visa headings. Making, checking and canceling appointments is done through the mission's own menu, and the menu is split in two: **consular transactions for Turkish citizens** and **visa pre-applications for foreign nationals**.

**We do not write document lists into this guide.** Every transaction has its own fee and its own document list, and which transaction requires what could not be verified one by one in this round. **Traveling to another state with the wrong document would be the most expensive advice this guide could give you;** confirm the list from the appointment menu and the call center.

#### A NOTARY TRAP, AND YOU SHOULD READ IT

- In this state **there is no such thing as a marriage license**. A marriage is created by filing a form, signed before **an Alabama notary**, with a probate court.
- **And notarization of that form at the consulate is not accepted**: the required signature is that of a notary **commissioned by Alabama**, and according to the attorney general opinion the agency cites, **notarization by a notarial officer of the U.S. Department of State is not accepted either**. So do not plan to travel to Houston and have the form signed there.
- **There is a convenience in Heflin**: the probate counter is inside town, at 120 Vickery St., Room 101, telephone 256-463-5655, so you do not travel to another settlement to record the form. **And the form can be recorded in any county**, so you can choose the county that suits you. **This county's recording fee could not be verified and we publish no figure**.
- **And a deadline**: the form must **reach the court within 30 days** of the signatures, or the marriage is void. **The postmark date does not count** and email is not accepted.

## Three routes to try before you travel

- 1 **e-Devlet**. Civil registry, address and some document transactions can be done remotely; check which transactions run remotely [here](#) first.
- 2 **The call center**. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and the fastest way to learn which document is required: **+1 888 566 76 56**.
- 3 **Courier or mail**. Some transactions run by sending documents. Ask the call center which ones are accepted, and **do not send documents on your own initiative**.

## 2026 closing days

The 2026 holiday list published on the mission's own contact page includes days falling after this guide's publication date, and two of them are immediately ahead: **October 12** and **October 29**. The list also includes November 11, November 26, December 24 and December 25, 2026, and January 1 and January 18, 2027. **The list is published annually**; check [the current list](#) before you make an appointment.

## Pre-trip checklist

| TASK                                                                                  | WHERE OR HOW                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Try e-Devlet and the call center first</b>                | Some business can be handled without traveling at all                                                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Plan the travel from the start</b>                        | <b>The trip does not start at your door</b> : the town has no scheduled flights, no train stop and no fixed route bus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Confirm the documents for each transaction one by one</b> | Document lists vary from transaction to transaction and this guide gives no list                                      |

| TASK                                                                                       | WHERE OR HOW                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Book appointments for the same day or consecutive days</b>     | Finish several items in one trip                                                                                                                                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Account for the general window being mornings only</b>         | <b>9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b> No afternoon counter hour is published for general business                                                                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>If you have visa business, plan around the separate window</b> | <b>2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.</b> , thirty minutes, and an appointment is requested                                                                                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Check whether a holiday falls on your travel day</b>           | The 2026 list is on the mission's contact page                                                                                                                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Have documents for use in Turkiye authenticated first</b>      | The order matters: <b>authentication first, consular appointment second</b>                                                                                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Do not plan to have the marriage form signed in Houston</b>    | The required signature is that of <b>an Alabama notary</b> ; the form can be recorded in <b>any county</b> and the probate counter is inside town                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Do not rely on figures found online for military service</b>   | Conditions and amounts change from period to period and <b>the current version could not be verified</b> in this round. Ask the call center about your own birth year and status |

The key to handling consular business from Heflin is **planning**, and here the first item in the plan is transportation. The good news: **all three attache offices share the Consulate General's address and the mission is in your own time zone**. The hard news: **the window is narrow** and the trip leaves the state.



#### TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN HEFLIN

#### Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients across Heflin, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation:

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