

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · INDIANA

Turkish Consular and Apostille Matters from Indiana 2026

Your mission is in Chicago and it runs on Central time, so most Indiana counties must add an hour. The apostille comes from one office, by appointment only.

SHORT ANSWER

Indiana falls within the jurisdiction of the **Consulate General of Türkiye in Chicago**. We verified that from a list rather than by assumption: the mission's own site names **13 Midwest states** as its area of responsibility, and Indiana appears on that list on two separate pages. **There is no Turkish mission inside Indiana**. One planning detail is easy to miss, so here it is first: **the consulate is on Central time, while most of Indiana is on Eastern time**, so the published hours are not your hours and a reader in an Eastern time county must **add an hour when reading them**. The **apostille** needed for a document going to Türkiye comes from **a single office** in the state, which has no branches and works **by appointment only**.

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, 24/7	+90 312 292 29 29
Working hours	Weekdays 09:00 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:30 Central time
Visiting hours, by appointment	09:30 to 12:00 only , Central time
Telephone applications	14:00 to 16:00 Central time
Consul General	Tahir Bora Atatanır

THE TIME DIFFERENCE COSTS REAL TIME HERE

- **If you live in an Eastern time county**, the telephone application window is **15:00 to 17:00** in your own clock. Reading the published time and calling at 14:00 means calling an hour early, and usually means no answer.
- **If you live in a Central time county**, the published hours are simply your own hours. That covers the six counties in the north-western corner and six in the south-west.
- **The in-person window is two and a half hours a day**. You have to take a morning appointment, and cancel the moment you know you cannot attend; at this distance a slot is genuinely valuable.
- **The trip is not the same trip from every part of Indiana**. The north-western corner sits inside the Chicago metropolitan area, which makes the consulate almost a local errand; from the center of the state, the western state line or the north-east, the same appointment means a long drive or a flight. **We print no distance figure**, because none came from a source this round.

On the mission's own list the area of responsibility covers Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin; one mission serves the whole Midwest. [The mission's own procedure menu](#) lists these headings separately: birth registration and civil registry matters, marriage and death registration, **passport renewal and first passport**, military service matters, notarial acts, powers of attorney and signature certification, Turkish citizenship matters including **reporting U.S. citizenship to the civil registry**, judicial matters and criminal record certificates, the e-Devlet password, Turkish driving license renewal, working life and social security matters, and estate matters. Nearly all of these run **by appointment**. **We do not print document lists here**: each procedure has its own fee and its own list and we could not verify them individually this round. **Travelling to Chicago with the wrong paperwork would be the most expensive advice this guide could give you**. On military service we deliberately give no figure either: the conditions and amounts change from period to period, we could not verify the current position from an official source this round, and **some steps cannot be undone once payment is made**.

OFFICE IN THE SAME BUILDING	CONTACT
Office of the Educational Attaché	Same address and floor, +1 312 263 0644 extension 811, chicago@meb.gov.tr
Office of the Commercial Attaché	Same address and floor, +1 312 263 0644 extensions 888 and 812, chicago@trade.gov.tr
Office of the Press Attaché	Same address and floor, +1 312 263 0644 extension 835, chicago@iletisim.gov.tr

- 1 **Call the call center first, +90 312 292 29 29**. It is open around the clock seven days a week, so the time zone problem does not arise, and it is the quickest way to learn what documents you need.
- 2 **Check e-Devlet for civil registry, address and some document matters**, turkiye.gov.tr; find out here first which errands can be done remotely.
- 3 **Ask about the courier or postal route**. Some matters run by sending documents; ask the call center which ones are accepted and do not send paperwork on your own initiative.
- 4 If you must attend in person, **take the appointment first and plan the journey second**, and convert the **09:30 to 12:00 Central time window** into your own clock.

- 5 **If a document will be used in Türkiye, settle the apostille in Indiana first**, because there is one office working by appointment only, and a marriage license has a county stop in front of it.
- 6 **Ask the mission whether a sworn translation is also needed**; that is something to learn on the telephone, not at the counter.
- 7 **Try to finish several matters in one trip**, taking appointments on the same day or on consecutive days. Because the in-person window is two and a half hours a day, you may need two separate appointments.
- 8 **Use the fact that the education office is in the same building**: school registration and equivalence matters in Türkiye can be added to the same appointment day.

The apostille: one office, appointment only, and four critical rules

ITEM	DETAIL
Which office	The authentication department of the Indiana Secretary of State, inside the business services division
Address	302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Branches	None. The office's own answer: the only office in the state is at that address
How it operates	By appointment only
Fee	2 dollars per authentication issued , non-refundable
Payment	Cash (exact change), check, money order or credit card
Normal turnaround	One to two business days from the date of receipt
In person with an appointment	Up to 10 documents while you wait; beyond that a self-addressed stamped envelope is required
In person without an appointment	Up to 5 documents while you wait
By mail	Documents received before noon are mailed the next business day, those received after noon within two business days; a prepaid return envelope is required
Telephone	Two official sources give two different numbers: (317) 232-2677 and 317-234-9768 . We could not establish which is current and we take no side; if one does not answer, try the other

A source warning, because this bears on your money and your calendar: we could not read any of the lines above from the office's own live pages. The state's server never answered this machine this round, and the information comes from **archive captures taken between 2023 and 2025** and from a copy of the office's own request form surfaced through a search index. **Confirm the fee, the turnaround and the appointment requirement by telephone before you travel.** We also pass on the warning that sits on the office's own page: **authentications issued by this office may not be used within the United States.** An apostille is for sending a document abroad; if an Indiana institution asks you for an apostilled document, what it wants is probably not an apostille, so ask before you pay. The list of competent authorities is published at [hcch.net](https://www.hcch.net).

FOUR RULES THAT HIT A TURKISH READER DIRECTLY

- **The office does not translate, and the translation must be notarized first.** Its own answer: it does not translate documents, and you must have them translated and have the **translation notarized** before the office can process the document. **This is the most important line in this section for a Turkish reader.** The order is: obtain the document, have it translated if needed, have the translation notarized, then send it for the apostille.
- **A marriage license is a two-stop errand.** It must first be **certified by the circuit court clerk of the county where the marriage took place**, and only then does it go to the state office. Add a stop at the county clerk.
- **Indiana records only.** A birth certificate issued by another state goes to that state's own authority; do not write to Indianapolis about a document you brought with you when you moved.
- **Federal documents go through another door.** A certificate of naturalization, a U.S. passport and a **federal background check** go to the U.S. Department of State's authentications office, not to the state. A document issued by a federal court is certified by that court's clerk.
- **On which documents are free, two official pages do not give the same list.** One lists **birth and death certificates, adoption documents, student transcripts and diplomas**; the same office's frequently asked questions page says **Indiana-issued birth and death certificates, Indiana school records, adoption papers and documents prepared by the office itself.** **The two lists do not match**, which leaves open whether your diploma is exempt; telephone before you prepare the envelope.
- **The certificate changed shape in 2022:** since 1 July 2022 the office uses the model single certificate, the document is **trilingual**, attached with **two staples**, and carries **a unique number** for verification; **the gold foil seal is gone.**
- **Two warnings about the mail:** the office's own warning is that postal mail is not delivered directly to it, which can cause delays, and it recommends an **express carrier** for time-sensitive documents; and do not send an incomplete envelope, because an incomplete submission comes back and pushes your calendar out by weeks.
- **Most documents need notarization**, but in the office's own words **marriage, divorce and birth certificates do not.** **Do not break the order:** nothing can be changed on a document once it has been apostilled.

Vital records: two routes, and a statute-versus-practice conflict

- **The system is not single but double:** the state's vital records division issues statewide and county health departments issue at their own level. The state's own frequently asked questions page states the difference plainly: **the county is faster**, but **the long form comes only from the state**, and matters requiring an apostille generally call for the state copy.
- **We print the conflict:** the statutory text says a local health officer may issue a certification from the electronic registration systems and adds expressly **regardless of the location of the filing of the record.** In practice at least one county health department says it issues only for births that occurred in its own county, and the state's own page describes the county route as **the county in which you were born.** The statute says **may**, not **shall**, so both can be true at once. **Call your own county health department before you set out.**

- **There is good news for a Turkish reader, twice over.** First, the state health department's identification form asks for **one primary document or two secondary documents**, and **a foreign passport is on the primary list**, so your Turkish passport is sufficient identification on its own; **the Social Security card is on the secondary list** and is only one of two.
- Second and stronger: the statute asks only that the applicant present **at least one form of identification**, and a separate sentence in the same section reads: **the local health officer must issue a certificate of an applicant's own birth registration. That is a duty rather than a discretion**, and **a refusal to issue a certified copy is subject to review by a court.**
- **Things to know before you order:** you must know **your mother's full maiden name and your father's full name** or the order cannot be completed; **the search fee is not refundable** and if no record is found you receive a no-record certificate; and **the document is mailed only to the address on your identification**, so if that address differs from where you live the document will not reach you.
- **We publish no fee.** We could not reach any fee figure from the state department of health this round and we could not read the vital records identification policies of the five counties either; **ask your county. We also found no delayed registration procedure.**
- **Work out how many copies you need in advance:** school enrollment, apostille work, consular matters and a passport application each ask for their own.
- **A direction note:** the certificate of a child born in Türkiye does not come through this door; it comes from Türkiye and, if it will be used in the United States, needs an apostille on the Turkish side. The reverse is also true: a certificate of a child born in Indiana that will be used in Türkiye takes the route of **the state copy plus an apostille.**

MARRIAGE LICENSE: YOU DO NOT CHOOSE THE COUNTY, AND ONE QUESTION STAYS UNANSWERED

- The statutory text is clear: the license comes from the circuit court clerk of **the county where either of you lives**; if neither of you lives in Indiana, from the county **where the wedding will take place**. The counties state that rule with different degrees of firmness: one as a flat prohibition, one by sending the person back to their own county, and a third by presenting county residence as **a fee tier**. **That third one is the outlier**; do not conclude that you may go to a neighboring county.
- **Three sources give three answers on the fee**. The statute and the state judiciary's page say **25 dollars** and **65 dollars**; the judiciary adds that **some offices also charge a 4 dollar document fee**; and one county clerk **charges four dollars more at both tiers and does not say why on its own page**. The gap matches that document fee, **but no source says so for that county**, so we do not invent an explanation. **For the fifth county we found no fee source at all**.
- **Most counties want cash**. We could verify only one county that accepts cards, and there a processing charge applies and personal checks are not accepted.
- **The honest answer on the number question**: the state judiciary's own page says **you will be required to provide your Social Security number, although your Social Security card may not be required**. The source of the requirement is identifiable: the statute requires the **record of marriage form** to include each applicant's number, kept confidential and used only for the purposes of the federal child support enforcement program.
- **And here is what we did not find**: no statute, no state department of health rule, not the judiciary's page and none of the five county clerk pages says **what a person who has never been issued a number should do**. We found no official source describing an affidavit, a waiver or a way to record its absence. **So we do not invent an answer**: the clerk will ask for the number, Indiana's published material shows no route for someone who has none, **so telephone your own county clerk before you go** and write down the answer.
- **The most critical sentence for a Turkish reader is about translation**: the judiciary's page accepts a **passport** as proof of date of birth and immediately adds that **if this documentation is in any language other than English, it may be necessary to have it translated and notarized before submitting it to the clerk**. So: certified translation first, then notarization, then the appointment.
- **What else happens at the counter**: both of you must appear in person; **the license is valid sixty days with no waiting period** and you may marry the same day; **the license is valid only within Indiana**; the application asks for the full name, last known address and place of birth of each party's mother and father; and **the record is kept in a book that is a public record**.
- One county clerk's list of who may solemnize a marriage names **an imam explicitly**, alongside judges, magistrates and clerks. **An important limit**: a religious ceremony alone is not a legal marriage; the legal marriage is completed by the license and by returning the certificate to the clerk. **Each certified copy is charged separately** and that is the document required for a name change, so get several.

Time difference and flights to Istanbul

ZONE	WHICH COUNTIES	DIFFERENCE IN SUMMER	DIFFERENCE IN WINTER
Central time	North-west: Jasper, Lake, LaPorte, Newton, Porter, Starke. South-west: Gibson, Perry, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh, Warrick	Türkiye 8 hours ahead	Türkiye 9 hours ahead
Eastern time	The remaining 80 counties, including Marion, Tippecanoe, Allen and Fountain	Türkiye 7 hours ahead	Türkiye 8 hours ahead

- **The federal source and the state source confirm each other:** [the federal regulation tracing the zone boundary](#) and [the state's own information page](#) give the same 12 counties. A third confirmation comes from practice: a statewide legal aid organization publishes its north-western office hours in Central time and its other offices in Eastern time.
- **We print no statutory section number.** The state's own page cites one, but the citation is written unusually and we could not verify the statutory text; **we do not invent a section number. There is a rule for settlements on the line:** the federal regulation provides that all municipalities located on the zone boundary are in the Central time zone.
- **Do not trust the lists circulating online:** some third-party pages speak of 18 Central counties, or place a city in the middle of the state on Central time; those contradict the state's own list.
- **Clocks go forward** on the second Sunday in March and **back** on the first Sunday in November; for 2026 that means **8 March 2026** and **1 November 2026**. Because Türkiye does not shift, the gap changes twice a year on the American side only. **Put 1 November 2026 in your calendar**, because it is very easy to be an hour out when you calculate a connection.
- **The easiest time to call Türkiye is your own morning.** On Eastern time, 9 a.m. here is 4 p.m. in Türkiye at the moment, and 5 p.m. after November. **The trap runs the other way:** if a bank or government office in Türkiye works 9 to 5 on weekdays, the window in which you can call starts around midnight here, which is why handling Turkish matters through e-Devlet and the call center also solves the time difference.
- **There is an hour inside the state as well.** There is no single Indiana time: somebody calling an office in the state capital from the north-west has to allow for the other end being **an hour ahead**. That matters for court hours and agency hours.

FLYING TO ISTANBUL: THE NONSTOP DOES NOT LEAVE FROM INSIDE THE STATE

- **There is no direct flight to Istanbul from the state's main airport.** Türkiye does not appear on [the airport's 2026 nonstop list](#); **its only nonstop to Europe is Dublin**, reported to be moving to five flights a week from April 2026. The other scheduled international routes are outside Europe.
- **The Dublin connection carries an advantage:** it is one of the two European airports with U.S. preclearance, so on the return leg U.S. entry formalities happen in Dublin.
- **The nonstop leaves from Chicago.** The Turkish flag carrier's own site shows **two nonstop flights a day** between **Chicago O'Hare** and Istanbul, with a flight time of about **10 hours 40 minutes**.
- **The practical consequence, and a sharp divide inside the state:** the north-western corner sits inside the Chicago metropolitan area, which makes it by far the closest part of Indiana to an airport with a nonstop to Istanbul. From the rest of the state the journey begins with either a road leg to Chicago or a connection. **We print no distance figure.**
- **The north-east has an airport of its own:** Fort Wayne International Airport reports **14 nonstop routes** and four airlines on its own count, two of them connections to Chicago O'Hare.
- **A name trap:** the airport belonging to the city in the state's north-west carries Chicago in its name, but **no scheduled passenger service was found** there; do not look for tickets from it.
- **On rail:** the passenger train through Indiana runs **three days a week** and calls at a handful of points, but **we print no train times or days**, because the sources we read contradict one another and the only official timetable we could find is years out of date. **We could not verify intercity bus stops or timetables either.**
- **And the short version of this section:** the identity document you use on an international flight is a passport, and the Indiana license is a card tied to a lawful status document; **do not go to the airport without your passport.**

How to order the chain

For documents going to Türkiye the order is: **obtain the document, have it translated and the translation notarized if needed, get the apostille, then use it.** Skipping a step and sending the document to Türkiye means going back to the beginning, which costs weeks, and **nothing can be changed on a document once it has been apostilled.** A marriage license has one more stop in front of it: **the county circuit court clerk.** 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.** If your child was born in Indiana or you married here, you will need an **apostilled original** of the certificate for the civil registry, so finish that step **before** the Chicago appointment, because there is one office in the state and it works by appointment only. If you have become a U.S. citizen, reporting that to the Turkish civil registry runs through the same mission and is generally a precondition for military service matters for dual citizens. One last detail: **an apostille certifies the document, it does not translate its content;** ask the authority in Türkiye that will receive it whether a sworn translation is also required.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN INDIANA

Have a question about your immigration status?

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