

FOR TURKISH RESIDENTS OF INDIANAPOLIS

Turkish Consular Matters and Apostilles from Indianapolis 2026

There is no Turkish mission in Indiana and the in-person window is two and a half hours a day, on a different clock. In exchange, the state's only apostille office is in your own city.

SHORT ANSWER

All of Indiana, Indianapolis 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.** Living in the state capital buys you nothing on this item. And the detail that drives the planning: **the consulate is on Central time while this city is on Eastern.** The published hours are not your hours, so **add an hour when you read them.** In exchange, **the state's only apostille office is in this city,** which makes the hardest link in that chain an appointment across town for you; that office, though, 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, which is 10:30 to 13:00 in your clock
Telephone applications	14:00 to 16:00 Central time, which is 15:00 to 17:00 in your clock
Consul General	Tahir Bora Atatanır
Jurisdiction	13 Midwest states; Indiana is on the list

ONE HOUR OF DIFFERENCE IS A REAL LOST TELEPHONE CALL HERE

- **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. **This is the easiest line in this guide to skip and one of the most useful.**
- **The in-person window is two and a half hours a day,** and it too is Central time, meaning 10:30 to 13:00 in your clock. Reaching it from here without leaving early in the morning is difficult, and **a plan that arrives in the afternoon wastes the day.**
- **Cancel the moment you know you cannot attend.** One mission serves the whole Midwest and a slot is genuinely valuable at this distance.
- **We print no distance figure,** because none came from a source this round. Whether to drive or fly is your decision.
- **Finish several matters in one trip.** Take appointments on the same day or on consecutive days; because the window is narrow you may need two separate appointments for two matters, so ask the call center.

What can be done through the mission

- Birth registration and civil registry matters; marriage registration and death registration.
 - Passport renewal and first passport; Turkish citizenship matters, **including reporting U.S. citizenship to the civil registry.**
 - Military service matters; notarial acts, powers of attorney and signature certification.
 - Judicial matters, criminal record certificates and service of documents; e-Devlet password; Turkish driving license renewal.
 - Working life and social security matters; estate matters.
 - **Nearly all of these run by appointment, and 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. **Traveling with the wrong paperwork would be the most expensive advice this guide could give you;** confirm the list through the appointment menu and the call center.
- 1 **Try e-Devlet.** Civil registry, address and some document matters can be handled remotely; check here first which of them can.
 - 2 **Call the call center, +90 312 292 29 29.** 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.
 - 3 **Ask about the courier or post route.** Some matters run by sending documents; ask which ones are accepted and do not send paperwork on your own initiative.
 - 4 **If you need an apostille, finish it before the Chicago appointment.** The office is in this city but works by appointment only.
 - 5 **Take a morning appointment** and read the time on the Central clock. 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 extension 811, chicago@meb.gov.tr. School registration and equivalence matters in Türkiye do not need a separate trip and **can be added to the same appointment day**.
- **Office of the Commercial Attaché:** same address and floor, extensions 888 and 812, chicago@trade.gov.tr.
- **Office of the Press Attaché:** same address and floor, extension 835, chicago@iletisim.gov.tr.

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. Amounts circulating on forums and private advisory sites generally belong to earlier periods, and there are steps with no way back once a payment is made.
- **The call center being open around the clock is particularly useful for this city,** because on Eastern time Türkiye is seven hours ahead in summer and eight after November, and the overlap between working hours is narrow.
- **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.
- **Registration and records:** check that your Indianapolis address and marital status appear correctly in the civil registry; some of this can be done through e-Devlet.

Apostille: the state's only office is here, but four rules hit a Turkish reader

Both Türkiye and the United States are parties to the Hague Apostille Convention, so a document issued here and bound for Türkiye needs an **apostille rather than consular legalization**. On the Hague Conference's list the authority named for Indiana is the **Indiana Secretary of State**, and the state's only authentication office is at **302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018**. It has no branches, works **by appointment only**, charges **\$2 per authentication issued** which is non-refundable, and the normal turnaround is **one to two business days**. With an appointment the office processes up to **ten documents** while you wait, without one it processes **five**. The full table, the payment methods and the telephone conflict are in our **official offices guide**.

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 take 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. If you married in this county both stops are downtown, which makes it a single morning. **But if you married in another Indiana county, the first stop is that county.**
 - **Indiana records only.** A birth certificate issued by another state goes to that state's own authority. Do not write to this office about a document you brought with you when you moved.
 - **Federal documents go through another door.** A certificate of naturalization, a U.S. passport or a federal background check goes 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.
 - **The office's own warning, in capitals on its page:** authentications issued by this office **may not be used within the United States**. If an Indiana institution asks you for an apostilled document, what it wants is probably not an apostille; ask before you pay.
 - **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 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;** telephone and ask before your appointment.
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- **The certificate changed shape in 2022:** since **1 July 2022** the office has used the Hague Conference's model single certificate and **no longer distinguishes apostille requests from authentication requests**. It is standard letter-size paper, **trilingual** in English, French and Spanish, attached with **two staples** to the front of the page bearing the certified signature and seal, and carries **a unique number** for verification. **The gold foil seal is gone;** do not go looking for one on an older document.
 - **Most documents need notarization**, but in the office's own words **marriage, divorce and birth certificates do not**. On a notarized document the notarial certificate must be complete: the notary's signature, seal, jurisdiction, the date and the name of the signer.
 - **Consider the mail route anyway:** 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. Living in the city lets you remove that problem entirely.
 - **Do not break the order.** Obtain the document first, have it translated and notarized if needed, and do the apostille **last**. Nothing can be changed on a document once it has been apostilled.

The first link in the chain: the document itself

Indiana has **two separate routes** for a birth certificate and it matters which one an apostille needs. **The county route is faster:** the state's own questions page says you receive an order more quickly when it is placed through the county in which you were born. **But the long form comes only from the state, and an**

apostille requires the state copy, so the quick county copy may not do for that job. 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 on its own.

THE REAL OBSTACLES ARE NOT THE NUMBER, THEY ARE THESE

- **There is a conflict between statute and practice, and we print it.** The statute says a local health officer **may** issue a certificate **regardless of where the record was filed**. But it says **may**, not **must**, and in this state some county health departments state that they issue only for births that occurred in their county. **We take no side:** call your own county health department before you set out.
- **Direct interest.** The people who may request a certificate are listed, and each must **document** the relationship.
- **Without the parents' names the order cannot be completed:** 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 all required. For a reader from Türkiye that is something to ask older relatives in advance.
- **The search fee is not refundable.** If no record is found you receive a no-record certificate and the money is not returned. **We print no vital records fee**, because we could not verify one.
- **The document is mailed only to the address on your identification.** For someone who has just moved that is a real trap: if your identification still shows the old address, that is where it goes.
- **We could not read the county health department's own identification policy**, so we do not print the county counter's list; ask for it by telephone. **We also could not find the delayed registration procedure.**

On marriage the order is this: the license comes from the clerk of the circuit court of **the county where one of you resides**, which for an Indianapolis resident means the **Marion County Clerk. Both of you must appear in person**, the license is valid sixty days, there is no waiting period and it is valid only inside Indiana. **A number is asked for**, and the state judiciary's own page says, in these words: you will also be required to provide your Social Security number, although your Social Security card may not be required. **We found no official Indiana source saying what a person who has never been issued a number should do, and we do not invent a procedure**; call the clerk before you go. And the decisive sentence: **if your documents are in any language other than English, they may need to be translated and notarized before they are submitted to the clerk**. So do not take a Turkish birth certificate straight to the counter: **sworn translation first, then the notary, then the appointment**.

The time difference and flying to Istanbul

PERIOD	TIME ZONE	DIFFERENCE FROM TÜRKİYE
9 October 2026 to 31 October 2026	Eastern daylight time	Türkiye 7 hours ahead
After 1 November 2026	Eastern standard time	Türkiye 8 hours ahead

- Türkiye stays on the same clock all year and does not observe daylight saving, so the gap shifts 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 practical window:** 9 a.m. here is 4 p.m. in Türkiye at the moment, and 5 p.m. after November. The easiest time to speak to family or to a government office in Türkiye is **your own morning**. The trap runs the other way: if an office in Türkiye works 9 to 5 on weekdays, the window in which you can call them starts around midnight here, which is why e-Devlet and the around-the-clock call center also solve the time difference.
- **The split inside the state:** the state information center's own answer is that most of Indiana is on Eastern time while **12 counties** in the north-west and south-west are on Central. The county this city sits in is on Eastern; when you call someone in the north-west, allow for them being **an hour behind**. **We print no statutory section number**, because the citation on the state's own page is written unusually and we could not verify the statutory text.
- **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.
- **On flights the honest answer: there is no direct flight to Istanbul from this city's 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 and you arrive here like a domestic passenger.
- **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**.
- **From here there are two realistic shapes:** a single connection out of your own airport, or a road leg to Chicago and the nonstop from there. The choice depends on luggage, children and ticket price. **We print no distance or driving time figure.**
- **On rail:** the interstate passenger train passes through this city but runs **three days a week**, and the station is in the old union station building downtown. **We print no train times or days**, because the sources conflict and the only official timetable we could find is years out of date.
- **The identity document you use on an international flight is a 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 INDIANAPOLIS

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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