

TURKISH MATTERS · KENTUCKY

Consular Business, Military Service and Apostilles from Kentucky 2026

There is no Turkish consulate in Kentucky; the nearest competent mission is in another state and procedures run by appointment and in person. So most business means a trip.

SHORT ANSWER

All of Kentucky falls within the consular district of the Turkish Consulate General in Chicago, as the mission's own jurisdiction list shows: the district covers **thirteen states** and Kentucky is one of them. So it does not matter which of the five communities you live in; **passports, civil registry matters, powers of attorney and military service** all run through the same door. **But the mission is in another state** and nearly every procedure requires **an appointment and an in-person visit**. **When you confirm an appointment time, say plainly which clock you are speaking in:** Kentucky is split across two time zones and the city where the mission sits may be in a different one. **And there is a domain name trap:** mission addresses written with a dot do not open; **the working form uses a hyphen.**

Jurisdiction and contact details

The mission's own jurisdiction list names these states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, **Kentucky**, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin. **Thirteen states, Kentucky included.**

ITEM	DETAIL
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611
Phone	+1 312 263 0644 · Fax: +1 312 263 1449
After-hours emergency line	+1 773 386 3213
Email	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Office hours	Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Appointment visits	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Phone transactions	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Call center	Around the clock: +90 312 292 29 29 · Local number for the United States and Canada: +1 888 566 7656

THE DOMAIN NAME TRAP: THE DOTTED ADDRESS DOES NOT OPEN

- Turkish mission addresses circulate in two forms, and **the one written with a dot does not open**.
- Every dotted mission address tried this round **came back closed; the working form uses a hyphen**.
- **If you cannot reach an address, change the domain that way and try again.**
- It looks small, but this item is one of the biggest time wasters in practice.

Appointments and planning the trip

Appointments are made through a single central system, and the mission's site offers two paths: consular procedures for Turkish citizens, and a visa pre-application for foreign nationals. The same menu carries separate flows for **checking** and **canceled** an appointment. Each procedure record on the central portal repeats the same line: **after booking, you must apply in person**.

- **The practical conclusion for Kentucky readers is an inference and it matters:** there is no Turkish consulate in the state, the nearest competent mission is in another state, and procedures run by appointment and in person. **So most business means a trip.**
- **Plan to finish everything in one visit:** passports, civil registry, powers of attorney and military service matters may each need **a separate appointment**. Book them for the same day or consecutive days.
- **Confirm document lists in advance.** Each heading has its own sub-page and **the text of those sub-pages could not be read this round** (they load in the browser). **So we put no fee amounts or per-procedure document lists in this guide.**
- **Time zone caution:** Kentucky is split across two time zones; if you live in the Central zone you need to leave **an hour earlier** for an appointment set on Eastern time.

Which procedures are handled

The top-level headings of the consular services portal, as published: **birth** (registering a child born in the United States in the Turkish civil registry), **civil registry**, **marriage** and **death** records, **passport**, **military service**, **notarial acts**, **Turkish citizenship**, **judicial matters**, **land registry and cadastre**, **e-government**, **driver license**, **employment**, and **savings accounts for citizens abroad**.

- **Powers of attorney are the most used item.** The portal uses a single combined procedure name covering **powers of attorney, revocations, consents, undertakings and contracts**. **The scope and the wording of the authority vary with the institution that will act on it in Türkiye;** have your attorney in Türkiye, or the institution that will use it, **draft the text in advance**. **A power of attorney missing an authority means a second trip.**
- **Becoming a U.S. citizen does not by itself end Turkish citizenship.** The portal separately lists **registration of multiple citizenship**, the **blue card application**, reacquisition of citizenship and renunciation procedures, and **all are marked as requiring an appointment and an in-person application**.
- **But here we draw a line plainly:** who the blue card is issued to, which rights it preserves and which it does not, **could not be read from the institution's own text this round;** the same applies to the document list and timeline for registering multiple citizenship. **So we make no statement about scope.**

- **Honorary consulate:** whether Türkiye has an honorary consulate in Kentucky **could not be confirmed**. The mission's page devoted to honorary representations returned no content this round. **We do not say there is none; we say research did not find one.** Even if one exists, **it may not handle passport or civil registry work.**
- **Pensions and buying back time abroad:** the portal's **employment** heading says it covers service records and social security, **but no listed procedure record was found under it. We write no amount, no day count and no statement about whether a permanent return is required.**

The paid military service exemption: conditions and order

The distance education required of those who will use the paid exemption from military service is delivered through the defense ministry's own portal, which describes it as a **mandatory stage**. The portal sets out two conditions, and in the second, multiple citizenship status is decisive.

SITUATION	WHAT IS REQUIRED
Turkish citizenship only	With a residence or work permit, at least three years of actual work in one of the listed statuses
Multiple citizenship (including U.S. citizenship)	No work requirement; at least three years of actual presence abroad is enough

- **In both cases, time spent in Türkiye does not count**, so long periods there effectively extend the three years.
- The applicant must also be **of military age and not yet have begun actual service.**
- **Two changes confirmed this round:** the **age 38 limit has been removed**, and **payment is upfront and in cash**, with the portal stating that **installments are not available.**
- **The order of operations:** register on the portal, complete the **mandatory distance education**, then apply to **the mission you belong to** with documents proving your residence and work situation and a valid passport. **For Kentucky that door is the consulate general above, and the consulate makes the eligibility assessment.**
- **Going to an appointment before finishing the course can waste a trip.**

THE AMOUNT: WE WRITE NO FIGURE, AND WE SAY WHY

- **The current amount could not be confirmed.** The figures circulating do not agree; one appears in other missions' announcements and a different one in the press, and **the two records do not match.**
- **The ministry's own portal does not publish a current amount.**
- **The correct statement is:** confirm the amount from the **current announcement of the mission you will apply to.**
- Because exchange rates move, **timing the payment can make a real difference.**
- **Deferral and exemption procedures could not be measured either:** the portal lists the headings but the sub-pages could not be read. **Questions about late registration and similar situations are personal;** ask the consulate or an attorney in Türkiye.

One confusion to avoid: a **federal selective service registration** may come up during a license or public service application in the United States. **That is entirely separate from your Turkish military service**

obligation; do not conflate them. If a box on that subject appears on a form and you are unsure of your situation, **ask before you check it**.

Apostilles: Kentucky's own two-step chain

THE TWO-STEP CHAIN: WHERE MOST MISTAKES HAPPEN

- For a document notarized on paper, the county clerk first certifies the notary's signature, and then the state's office issues the apostille.
- It must be the clerk of the county where the notary is commissioned.
- If the first step is skipped, the request is rejected. The institution's own warning: Requests for documents that do not have the required signatures will be rejected.
- An electronically notarized document skips that step and goes straight through the online portal. Where the option exists, that route saves time.

DOCUMENT TYPE	REQUIRED FIRST STEP
Vital records (birth, marriage, divorce, single status)	Must bear the signature of the sitting state registrar. Say at the time of the request that you will use the document for an apostille
Documents notarized on paper	The signature must be notarized by a state notary and the notary's signature certified by the clerk of the county where the notary is commissioned
School records (transcripts, diplomas)	The school official's signature notarized, then county clerk certification. The institution adds Many schools will issue notarized records
State criminal record check	A notarized record must be specifically requested from the state police, then certified by the county clerk. A record issued by the judicial administration cannot be apostilled
Federal documents (federal background check, tax records, passport)	The state cannot do these; they belong to the federal department of state
Court records	The signature of the court clerk, certified by the corresponding county clerk

ROUTE	FEE AND TIMING
By mail	\$5 per document, with a completed request form. Mailed-in requests are completed within 3 business days, returned by first class mail. Include a prepaid shipping label if you want tracking
In person	\$5 per document, during weekday business hours: Walk-in requests are completed as you wait
Electronic	The file is submitted online and the apostille comes back as a PDF by email. The institution's own limit: This option is not available for Vital Records.

- On the vital records side the fee is a search fee: a birth record is \$10, the others \$6, and it is not refunded if a certificate is not found. Online orders run through a single authorized partner, and the office publishes its own warning about other sites charging excessive fees.
- An apostille does not certify the content of a document; it certifies only the signature, the seal and the capacity of the signer.

- **An apostille does not translate the document either.** A Turkish translation is a separate job and **the institution in Türkiye that will accept the document sets the procedure:** some require a sworn translator and a notary in Türkiye, others accept a consulate-certified translation. **Ask in advance;** a translation done the wrong way can mean obtaining the document all over again.
 - **In the other direction:** for a document coming from Türkiye, **the Turkish side** issues the apostille, and Türkiye operates its own electronic apostille system.
- 1 **Put your passport expiration on the same calendar as your status expiration.**
 - 2 **Compare how your civil registry records read on both sides;** fixing one and leaving the other creates problems later.
 - 3 **Group your consular business into one trip** and ask in advance whether each procedure needs its own appointment.
 - 4 **When you confirm an appointment time, say plainly which time zone you are speaking in.**
 - 5 **For the paid exemption, finish the distance education first,** then go to the appointment, and confirm the amount close to the day you pay.
 - 6 **Do not forget the two-step apostille chain,** and prefer an electronically notarized document where possible.
 - 7 **Order more than one certified copy of every document:** one goes to the apostille, one stays in your file, one stays in reserve.
 - 8 **For local detail and your own community's time zone, see our [Louisville](#), [Lexington](#), [Jeffersontown](#), [Bowling Green](#) and [Elizabethtown](#) guides.**



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN KENTUCKY

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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