

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · LOUISVILLE

Turkish Consular Matters from Louisville: 2026 Guide

Your mission is in Chicago and Chicago is on Central Time. Appointment visits and telephone transactions run in separate windows, and the apostille chain here has two steps.

SHORT ANSWER

Kentucky falls within the consular district of the Turkish Consulate General in Chicago, and the mission's own jurisdiction list names thirteen states. **Labeled inference:** there is no Turkish consulate in Kentucky, and almost every consular transaction runs on **an appointment plus an in-person visit**, so **most matters mean traveling to Chicago**. The agency does not say that in those words; we combined the jurisdiction list with the in-person requirement. **And a time zone warning:** Louisville is **Eastern** and Chicago is **Central**, so the consulate's 9:30 is 10:30 by your clock. **Confirm which zone your appointment time is given in.**

Contact and hours

ITEM	DETAIL
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611 (NBC Tower)
Telephone	+1 312 263 0644 · Fax +1 312 263 1449
Email	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
After-hours emergency line	+1 773 386 3213
Consular call center (24 hours)	+90 312 292 29 29
Local number for the United States and Canada	+1 888 566 7656
Office hours	Monday to Friday 9:00 - 12:30 and 13:30 - 16:30
Appointment visits	9:30 - 12:00
Transactions by telephone	14:00 - 16:00

Note the last two rows: appointment visits and telephone transactions run in **different windows**. Do not plan to arrive in the afternoon and be served at the counter.

TIME ZONES: TWO ZONES, TWO RISKS

- **Louisville is on Eastern Time and Chicago on Central Time.** The consulate's **9:30** is **10:30** by your clock. **Confirm** which zone your appointment is given in.
- **Kentucky itself is split across two time zones.** Louisville is in the Eastern zone, but travel to the southwest of the state and the clock changes. We confirmed this from two official sources: the state transportation agency's office list **labels each office with its zone**, and the federal regulation describes the boundary **by county names**.
- **The same trap sits in your immigration hearing:** times for the Louisville docket are in **Eastern Time**, but the court of administrative control for the case is in the **Central** zone.

The domain trap

A small but real waste of time: the forms of Turkish mission web addresses written with a **dot** after the city name **would not open at all** during the research. **The working form uses a hyphen**. If you click an old link from a search result and the page fails, check whether the address is in that form.

How appointments work

Almost every transaction needs an appointment. The mission's site offers **Randevu Al**, the booking menu, with two routes: **consular transactions for Turkish citizens** and **pre-application for visas for foreign nationals**. There are also **Randevu Sorgula** and **Randevu İptali** links for checking and canceling. The central gateway is konsolosluk.gov.tr. **The sentence repeated on every transaction record:** *"Randevu aldıktan sonra şahsen başvurmanız gerekmektedir"* - after booking an appointment you must apply in person.

What the consulate handles

The official Turkish consular transaction gateway lists these top-level headings: **DOĞUM · NÜFUS · YUVAM HESAPLARI · EVLİLİK · PASAPORT · ASKERLİK · NOTERLİK · T.C. VATANDAŞLIK · ÖLÜM · ADLİ KONULAR · TAPU VE KADASTRO · E-DEVLET · SÜRÜCÜ BELGESİ · ÇALIŞMA**. The four most used by Turkish readers:

- **Passport renewal.**
- **Notarial matters:** grouped under one heading - **"Noterlik İşlemi Başvurusu (Vekaletname-Azilname-Muvafakatname-Taahhütname-Sözleşme vb.)"**. A power of attorney for a sale, an inheritance or a case in Turkey is executed **here**. **Fees and document lists could not be read from the agency's page;** ask when you book.
- **Birth registration:** **"Doğum Tescili Başvurusu (Evlilik Birliği İçinde Doğan Çocuklar İçin)"**. **Labeled inference:** registering a child born in Kentucky with Turkish civil records is done through this transaction and through Chicago; **the consulate does not say so in a Kentucky-specific sentence. The document list could not be read from the agency's page.**
- **Citizenship:** if you have become a U.S. citizen, **Çok Vatandaşlık Tescili Başvurusu**; if you have renounced Turkish citizenship, **Mavi Kart Başvurusu**. **We write no sentence about the scope of the Mavi Kart** - the transaction detail pages did not load.

Military service matters

Military service runs through the same mission, and the official transaction list groups it under three headings, all requiring **an appointment and an in-person application: deferment** (based on employment, profession or trade, seafarer status or multiple citizenship, with a separate application for student status), **paid service abroad**, and **exemption** (for holders of multiple citizenship, and on health grounds).

What was measured from the Ministry of National Defence's own distance learning portal:

- **Distance learning is mandatory:** those wishing to use the paid service route must complete the training through that portal.
- **Who qualifies:** in the portal's words, you must have reached conscription age and **not yet begun actual military service**.
- **Time requirement:** holding a residence or work permit abroad and having **actually worked for at least three years**; for those with multiple citizenship, having **lived abroad for at least three years** excluding time spent in Turkey.
- **The age 38 limit has been removed.**
- **Payment is made in full and in cash at the time of application; there is no installment option.**
- **The consulate assesses eligibility.**
- **The amount is not published on the portal.**

Why we publish no figure: two different amounts circulate for 2026 and neither could be confirmed from **the Chicago consulate's own announcement**; the announcements that were found came from **other consulates** and the currency conversion differs by country. A press source gives a third figure that matches neither. **The correct route:** learn the figure from the current announcement of the consulate you will apply to, or from the call center. **Because payment is in full and in cash, settle the figure before you travel.**

Is there an honorary consulate?

Whether Turkey maintains an honorary consulate in Kentucky could not be verified in this research - the mission's honorary consulates page returned no content. There is secondary information about an honorary consul in the Midwest, but **we name no one because it was not confirmed on the agency's own page**. The **limits of an honorary consulate's authority** could not be read either. If you hear of one, **confirm with the call center first whether it can handle your transaction**.

Sending a document to Turkey: a two-step apostille chain

This item is specific to Kentucky, and skipping the first step gets your request rejected. The chain runs like this: **first the county clerk certifies the notary's signature, then the Secretary of State issues the apostille**. The Secretary of State's own warning: **"Requests for documents that do not have the required signatures will be rejected."**

ROUTE	FEE	TURNAROUND
By mail	\$5 per document	3 business days, then returned by regular mail
In person	\$5 per document	Completed while you wait and handed back

ROUTE	FEE	TURNAROUND
Electronic (e-Apostille)	Electronic payment	Delivered as a PDF by email. Not available for vital records

- **Vital records** (birth, marriage, divorce, single status) must bear the signature of the **current State Registrar**. The state vital statistics office: **(502) 564-4212**
- **Paper notarized documents:** the signature must be notarized by a **Kentucky notary** and the notary's signature must be certified by **the county clerk where the notary is commissioned**.
- **A shortcut:** if the document is notarized electronically by a **Kentucky Online Notary Public**, **the county clerk step is not required**. For a power of attorney headed to Turkey, that can save days.
- **Federal documents** (a federal criminal record, tax records, a passport) are not the Secretary of State's work; the **U.S. Department of State** handles those.
- **When ordering a birth certificate, say it is for an apostille:** the vital statistics office states that it **must be informed** the record will be used for that purpose, and that **you carry** the certified copy to the Secretary of State. The offices do not send it to each other.

Flights: no direct connection

The airport's own airline list (**Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport**) includes **no scheduled transatlantic passenger carrier**. **Labeled inference:** we conclude from that there is **no direct flight from Louisville to Istanbul**; the airport does not say so in a sentence. **We publish no journey time, number of connections or days of operation** - none of that was measured and it changes often. **An idea:** if you have consular business, plan the trip to Turkey **with a connection in Chicago** and pair the connection day with your appointment, so you do not make a separate trip.

Checklist before traveling to Chicago

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Book the appointment	Through konsolosluk.gov.tr ; every transaction requires an in-person visit
☐ Confirm the time zone	Louisville is Eastern , Chicago is Central . The consulate's 9:30 is 10:30 for you
☐ Pick the right window	Appointment visits 9:30 - 12:00 , telephone transactions 14:00 - 16:00
☐ Ask for the document list in advance	+1 888 566 7656 (United States and Canada) or +90 312 292 29 29 (24 hours)
☐ Fit everything into one trip	Passport, power of attorney, civil registry and military service matters in the same appointment
☐ Finish the training first for military service	Distance learning is mandatory , payment is in full and in cash with no installments ; settle the amount beforehand
☐ Do not skip the apostille chain	For a paper notarized document: county clerk first, then the Secretary of State . Skip it and it is rejected

TASK	WHERE OR HOW
☐ Do not try the electronic route for vital records	The agency's own exception: that option is not available for vital records
☐ Save the emergency line	After hours: +1 773 386 3213



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN LOUISVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients across Louisville, in Turkish and English. Free evaluation: clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

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