

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · MANDEVILLE

Consulate, Military Service and Apostilles from Mandeville 2026

All of Louisiana falls under the Consulate General in Houston, and it is in another state. Appointments are required and the window is narrow: finish everything in one trip.

SHORT ANSWER

Louisiana is served by the Consulate General in Houston, confirmed by the mission's own sentence: its district covers **eight states** and Louisiana is among them. **So the consulate general is not in the same state**, which makes the guide's most practical advice mandatory: **book the appointment in advance and finish everything in one trip**. The in-person window is weekdays **9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Apostilles are not handled at the consulate but by the **state authority**, at **\$20 per document**. **Whether there is a Turkish honorary consulate in the region was not found by research**: the consulate general's own pages never mention honorary consulates. **We do not say there is none**.

Consulate general details

ITEM	INFORMATION
Address	5333 Westheimer Road, Suite 1050, Houston, TX 77056
Telephone	+1-346-439 65 60
After-hours emergency (duty officer)	+1-832-774 18 61
Email	consulate.houston@mfa.gov.tr
Working hours	Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Visa application hour	2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
District	Eight states , Louisiana included
Call center	+90 312 292 29 29 , around the clock, seven days a week
Toll-free from the U.S. and Canada	+1 888 566 7656

- The same building houses the **religious affairs, education and commercial attache offices**; they are **separate units**. The call center page also carries an **interpreter search** link.
- **An appointment is required** and is made through one central system: konsolosluk.gov.tr. The same system handles appointment lookup, cancellation and visa pre-application for foreign nationals as separate flows.

- **The headings in the service catalog:** birth, civil registry, savings accounts, marriage, passport, military service, notarial acts, citizenship, death, judicial matters, e-government, driver licenses and employment.
- **Fees and document lists vary by transaction and were not measured one by one this round;** check the mission's own subpage before you book.

FINISH IT IN ONE TRIP

- The consulate general is **in another state** and the window is **three and a half hours a day. Do not go without an appointment;** a wasted day really is expensive here.
- List everything before you go: passport renewal, civil registry, a power of attorney, a criminal record certificate, an e-government password, military service, a service certificate.
- **Scope matters in a power of attorney:** have the text drafted **in advance** by your lawyer in Türkiye or by the institution that will act on it; a power of attorney with missing authority means a second trip.
- **For an after-hours emergency** (a lost passport, detention, hospital, death) there is a **duty officer line;** save that number in your phone.
- **Two notes specific to Mandeville:** the road runs through the south shore, so there is a **bridge crossing** on the way out; and plan the trip around **hurricane season**, checking the weather and road closures before you leave during the season.

Dual citizenship and the Blue Card

Becoming a U.S. citizen does not by itself end Turkish citizenship. By the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' own definition, the **Blue Card** is the official document issued to people who were Turkish citizens by birth and **lost that citizenship by obtaining a release**, and to the descendants the statute lists. So the Blue Card only comes up when a **release** has been obtained; a person who keeps dual citizenship continues with a **Turkish identity card and passport**, not a Blue Card. **Information confusing the two is very common online.**

- **Rights:** apart from the exceptions the statute lists, the rights granted to Turkish citizens **continue to apply in full.**
- **The exceptions the statute itself lists:** **no right to vote or stand for office**, no right to import a vehicle or household goods duty free, and **no obligation to perform military service. Vested social security rights are preserved.**
- **Public employment:** permanent and principal public service posts tied to an established position are not open; employment in public institutions as a **worker, temporary or contracted staff** is possible.
- **Identity number:** the records of those who lose citizenship by release are moved to the Blue Card register **without changing the identity number;** descendants who are not Turkish citizens are issued a **foreign national identity number** on application.
- **Application:** a petition, **two photographs** and presentation of an identity document or passport issued by foreign authorities.

Paid military service

The Ministry of National Defense's distance learning portal states in its own words that this training is a **step required by statute. The item most often confused is this:**

SITUATION	WHAT IS REQUIRED
Turkish citizenship only	Having actually worked at least three years abroad with a residence or work permit, in one of the listed capacities
Multiple citizenship status	No employment requirement; actually being abroad for at least three years is enough

- **In both cases, time spent in Türkiye does not count. Most accounts online do not draw this distinction** and push readers into collecting documents they do not need.
- **The sequence:** register on the portal with your identity number, complete the course content and the end-of-section questions, then apply to the consulate you are attached to **with documents proving your residence and employment situation and a valid passport**. In Louisiana that means the **Consulate General in Houston**.
- **We do not print the fee and we explain why:** the figures circulating do not agree, the ministry's own portal does not publish a current amount, and **the amount depends on the exchange rate on the day of payment. Do not budget from a figure you read in a guide.**
- **On deferral and postponement,** the ministry's own text could not be reached this round; **we describe no procedure here.** Ask the consulate general's military service desk.
- **The distance learning is not a formality but a prerequisite for the consular application;** complete it before you book, or you will not be able to transact on the day you go.

Retirement and crediting foreign service

- **Periods that can be credited:** documented periods of insured employment abroad after turning 18, periods of unemployment **of up to one year each** between or after them, and periods spent abroad as a homemaker. **Periods before age 18 are outside the scope.**
- **Documentation is mandatory.** For periods spent in countries without a social security agreement, a **service certificate obtained from a Turkish mission** is attached to the petition; the **employment** heading in the consulate general's catalog is exactly this.
- **The amount owed: 45 percent** of the daily earnings base chosen between the lower and upper limits in force on the application date, multiplied by the number of days credited. The assessed debt is paid **within three months of notification**; if it is not, a new application is required. **Partial crediting is possible.**
- **What it does and does not do:** credited periods are taken into account **only in granting a retirement or old-age pension**; they are **not considered for disability or survivor pensions.**
- **A final return to Türkiye is required** for a pension to be granted, and a separate declaration and undertaking is taken with the application.
- **We print a conflict:** one page of the institution requires the applicant to be a Turkish citizen at the moment of crediting (or to have been a citizen by birth and lost it by release); a guide published by the same institution says **that requirement was removed by a statute in 2014. We take no side;** ask the institution in writing before you apply.

Apostilles: two stages and an order that must not break

- 1 Obtain the certified copy.** For birth and death certificates, the state vital records registry; for court documents, the parish Clerk of Court.
- 2 Send it to the state's commissions division for the apostille.** In-person applications are weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; mail and courier routes exist as well.
- 3 Leave the translation for last.** The correct order is: certified copy, then apostille, then translation and the Turkish authority. **Having the translation done first and then seeking an apostille usually means starting over.**

ITEM	INFORMATION
Fee	\$20 per document; \$10 if it relates to an adoption (proof may be requested)
In person	Weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Mail	Louisiana Secretary of State, Commissions Division, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
Courier	8585 Archives Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Telephone	225.922.0330

- The office certifies the signatures of: **notaries, clerks of court and their deputies, ex officio notaries, sheriffs and their deputies, judges, justices of the peace and the state registrar**, plus transcripts and diplomas signed by the registrar, president or dean of accredited universities in the state.
- Documents issued by a clerk of court or the vital records registry need no separate notarization, and photocopies of those documents are not accepted.** Other documents must be notarized by a **Louisiana notary**, with the notary's **printed name and notary identification number below the signature**.
- The shipping trap:** the office **does not pay for return shipping**, requires a prepaid envelope or label, and in its own words asks that **its own address not be written on the return label**. A mailed application also requires **a request letter stating which country the document is going to** and a daytime phone number.
- No apostille is issued for documents to be used within the United States:** Apostilles will not be issued for documents intended for use within the United States. If an institution inside the U.S. asks you for an apostille, **ask whether it really wants an apostille or a certified copy**.
- An apostille does not certify the content of a document;** it certifies only the signature, the seal and the capacity of the signer.
- Order several certified copies from the start;** the mail route can take **eight to ten weeks** and **no stage works with a photocopy**. One practical detail for a Mandeville resident: **the two stages run in two different cities**, so plan the mail and courier route from the beginning.

Time difference and getting to Istanbul

PERIOD	DIFFERENCE WITH TÜRKİYE
During daylight saving time	8 hours
During standard time	9 hours

- **The entire state is in the Central Time Zone**, and daylight saving time begins on the **second Sunday in March** and ends on the **first Sunday in November**; **Türkiye does not change its clocks**. So the difference **shifts twice a year**, and in those weeks even automatic calendar invitations can be off.
- **There is no nonstop flight to Istanbul**. On the region's airport's own list the only nonstop European destination is **London**, five times a week; the other nonstop international destinations are **Toronto** and seasonal **Cancun**.
- **Every trip from Mandeville to the airport crosses the bridge**; add that to your travel budget and **check your tag account balance** before the trip.
- **Which airline flies to Istanbul from which U.S. city could not be verified this round**, so we name no airline; when you buy the ticket, check **whether the connecting hub actually has a connection on that day**.
- **If you need to travel to Türkiye urgently, you cannot go nonstop from here**. Settle the validity of your passport and, if it applies, your military service situation **in advance**; in an urgent trip there is no time to fix them.

If you will travel to Türkiye while an immigration case is pending, that is a separate legal decision and in some statuses it affects the right to return; ask your attorney before you buy the ticket. For the statewide rules, see [our Louisiana guide](#).



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN MANDEVILLE

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

clinchlaw.com/free-evaluation · +1 866-491-7669

Office: 321 N Central Expy, Ste 206, McKinney, TX 75070

Attorney responsible for this guide: Asim Clinch, Esq., Clinch Law Firm P.C. Attorney Asim Clinch is a member of the Missouri Bar (No. 76084) and practices U.S. federal immigration law.

Attorney advertising. This guide is general information only. It is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney. Information compiled from official sources as of October 14, 2026; fees and procedures change, so check the official site before you act. Reading this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Latest version: clinchlaw.com/city-guides/mandeville-immigration-attorney