

STEP BY STEP · MEMPHIS

Turkish Consulate, Military Service and Apostille from Memphis 2026

Your mission is in Houston and the consular district was verified in both directions. The apostille office is not in this city: from here it is a mail job and it has to be started early.

SHORT ANSWER

Tennessee sits in the consular district of the **Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Houston**, and we write that not as an assumption but on a **two-way verification**: the mission's own site lists its district as **eight states** and Tennessee appears on four separate pages; in addition, **the pages of the other five Turkish consulates general in the United States were scanned in the same round and Tennessee appears on none of them**. Two things to know before you set off, both about hours: **the only window published for general consular business is 09.00 to 12.30 in the morning**, and **visa applications are taken separately, in a thirty minute window**. Good news: **all three attache offices share the consulate general's building and suite**, and **the consulate general is in your own time zone**. We publish no distance or driving time figure, but we say up front that the trip leaves the state.

The mission and the hours

ITEM	INFORMATION
Mission	Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Houston
Address	5333 Westheimer Road, Suite 1050, Houston, TX 77056
Switchboard	+1 346 439 65 60
After hours emergency and duty officer	+1 832 774 18 61
Consular call center, 24 hours, 7 days	+1 888 566 76 56
Working hours	Weekdays 09.00 to 12.30 . The mission publishes no afternoon counter hour for general consular business; this is the only published window
Visa application hours	14.00 to 14.30 , a separate thirty minute window. The mission asks that an appointment be made before you arrive
Appointments	An appointment in advance for every transaction; the booking system runs from the mission's own menu

ITEM	INFORMATION
Holiday calendar	The mission publishes its 2026 and 2027 holiday calendar on its own page; it covers both U.S. and Turkish official days, October 29 included

One comparison, because it has a practical consequence for a reader traveling from here: some consulates general publish two windows a day, morning and afternoon. **In Houston the afternoon holds only the thirty minute visa window.** What that means is this: **your chance of fitting two transactions into a single day is narrow.**

The attaches are in the same building, and in the same suite

In one earlier round of this series the attaches sat in **a different building** from the consulate general and that guide sent readers to two separate addresses. **Here the situation is different and we are not carrying that warning over:** the **Office of the Attache for Religious Services**, the **Office of the Educational Attache** and the **Office of the Commercial Attache** all publish the consulate general's address **and the same suite number**. So a diploma equivalence matter for your child and a consular matter can be handled in the same building. Appointments are booked separately, though; work out in advance whether they fit into one day, because **the general transaction window is mornings only.**

THE DISTRICT AND THE NEIGHBORING STATE TRAP, SHARPER IN THIS CITY

- By the mission's own list, the district covers: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. The mission's pages print the list in different orders but the content is the same; **that is an ordering difference, not a contradiction.**
- **And the instinct of geographic proximity misleads here:** the Consulate General in Chicago lists its district as **thirteen Midwestern states**, and **neighboring Kentucky is on that list**. Tennessee is not.
- **This matters particularly for a reader in this city**, which sits in a corner of the state with several state lines nearby: some neighboring states are in the same consular district and some are not.
- **The consulate your neighbor uses may not be your consulate;** confirm which mission covers your own state before you begin.

What is handled there

- Birth notifications and civil registry transactions · marriage registration · passport matters
- Military service matters, **under four separate subheadings in the menu**
- Notarial acts: powers of attorney, revocations, consents, undertakings and contracts
- Certification: certification of signatures and seals on documents issued by foreign authorities, and certification of translations made by sworn translators
- Turkish citizenship matters · estate matters · the visa heading, information requests and appointment matters
- **We do not write document lists in this guide.** Each transaction has its own fee and its own document list, and we could not verify item by item which transaction requires what this round. **Confirm the list from the appointment menu and the call center.**

TWO TRANSACTIONS THAT CAN BE DONE BY MAIL: EITHER CAN CANCEL A TRIP

- Nearly every transaction on the mission's menu carries the phrase **you must apply in person after booking an appointment**.
- **Registration of a marriage performed before foreign local authorities** is marked **you may apply by mail** on the menu.
- **An international marriage record extract** can be obtained either by appointment or through an online link with delivery to your address.
- **The right step:** call the call center before you book and ask whether your own transaction can be done by mail. **There may be an exception the menu does not state, and a phone call is cheaper than a trip.**

Military service: if the order is broken the application is not accepted

- 1 **Distance learning first.** The person liable must log into the Ministry of National Defense's own distance learning portal and **complete the program**. This step has to be finished before the application.
 - 2 **Then apply in person.** You book an appointment and go to the consulate general **in person** with the documents. The mission's own announcement is plain: **applications made by mail are not accepted**.
 - 3 **If you also hold U.S. citizenship there is one more step first:** for a military service transaction to be handled, **the multiple citizenship must first be registered in the Turkish civil registry**. **Without that registration the transaction does not start**, and for a reader traveling from here that can mean **two separate trips** to Houston.
- **There is a residency requirement and this state is covered:** the mission's announcement states the obligation to reside in one of the eight states in the district.
 - **Status requirement:** being in the United States on a residence or work permit as an employee, an employer, a professional or an artist, or serving as a seafarer on a foreign-flagged vessel.
 - **Duration requirement:** excluding time spent in Türkiye, having worked in the United States for **at least three years** in total and holding that status at the time of application. **There is an exception for dual citizens:** those residing abroad with a right to multiple citizenship are **not asked for the work requirement if they have actually been in foreign countries for at least three years**.
 - **Which statuses count and which do not:** in student status, **curricular practical training time does not count**; students working on post-graduation work authorization are among the statuses that do count. **Participants in an exchange program funded by a Turkish scholarship cannot benefit from this law for as long as they hold the scholarship.**
 - **Seafarers cannot be processed in Houston.** The announcement says these applications can be made at **only two other consulates general; we do not write the names of those two missions**, because their districts were not measured this round. If you are a seafarer, confirm with the call center before booking.
 - **A warning on documents:** all company and personal details on the tax forms must **match** the employer letters. If the name of a company you worked for years ago has changed, fix that from the start.
 - **Payment:** cash and personal checks are not accepted. And the announcement's own instruction is this: **do not pay before the consulate general has determined that you meet the conditions**.

- **No written notice is sent to you after the application;** follow-up runs through e-Devlet and questions go to your own military service branch office.
- **Deferral and exemption are four separate items on the menu:** overseas deferral under two subheadings and exemption under two; all four by appointment and in person.

PAID EXEMPTION AND TRAVEL TO TÜRKİYE: WE PRINT NO AMOUNTS AND NO CONCLUSIONS

- **There is no heading for paid military exemption on the mission's transaction menu.** So **paid exemption is not a consular matter** and it is a separate regime from the foreign currency route; it runs domestically, through the Ministry of National Defense, the military service branch office and e-Devlet.
- **We could not verify the current conditions, the competent authority or the amount this round and we print none of them.** Amounts circulating on forums generally belong to earlier periods.
- **Does it affect entry to and exit from Türkiye: no official sentence answering that question directly was found this round,** and we are not inventing an answer. The mission's announcement refers to entry and exit records only **as a means of proof.**
- **So we write neither that it affects them nor that it does not.** The right step: for deferral, exemption and foreign currency military service matters, **consult your own military service branch office and the consulate general,** and get the answer **before you buy a ticket.**

Apostille: the office is not in this city, so this is a mail job

ITEM	INFORMATION
Office	Tennessee Secretary of State, the authentication office of the business services division
Address	312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 6th floor, Nashville, TN 37243
In person	The customer service desk on the 3rd floor, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Same day service	If you arrive before 2 p.m. From this city that window can be used only by traveling to that city
Fee	\$2.00 per document. Because this is a fee figure, confirm it on the office's own page before you pay
Scope	The office issues an apostille or a certificate of authentication for documents issued, executed or certified by county clerks, the state office of vital records and the Secretary of State

The disadvantage for a reader living here in one sentence: a reader living in the state capital can finish this job the same day by arriving before 2 p.m.; **from here it is a mail job or a separate trip.** What that means in practice: **start the document work before your consular appointment** and build mail time into the plan. **We print no mail processing time,** because the office's page gives none and the estimates seen this round were not official.

Route A: a notarized private document

- 1 You take the document to a **Tennessee notary** and have it notarized.

- 2 You take the notarized document to **the clerk of the county where the notary is commissioned** and have the notary's signature certified.
- 3 Then you send it to the Secretary of State with the office's own request form, the document, **the name of the certifying county** and the fee.

THE TEST IS EASILY MISREAD, AND THE MISTAKE IS COMMON IN THIS CITY

- **What controls is not where the document was signed or which county you live in, but the county where the notary is commissioned.**
- If you live in this city but signed before a notary in a neighboring county, this step changes.
- **A notary in a neighboring state never enters this chain at all**, because the office processes only documents executed in this state. **This city sits near several state lines and the mistake is common; keep that in mind when you choose your notary.**
- **A county clerk's certification fee varies by county**; the figures seen this round came from secondary sources and **we print no amount**. Ask the county clerk's office.

Route B: a vital record

- **No county certification is needed here.** The office's own sentence says: **if you already hold a certified copy and need an apostille added to it, you may send your request and the document directly to the Secretary of State**, with the \$2 per document fee.
- **This is not the case everywhere in this series.** In some states a document had to be **reissued** for an apostille. **Because the office is not in this city, that convenience is worth even more here.**
- **If you do not hold a certified copy**, you send **two separate payments** to the vital records office, and **that office forwards the document, the payment and the request to the Secretary of State itself**; you do not visit two agencies separately.
- **And obtaining a vital record in this state is already easy:** birth and death certificates can be issued by **all ninety-five county health departments**. **But that sentence is not written for marriage and divorce records**; for those, the central office or the mail route applies.

APOSTILLE OR AUTHENTICATION CERTIFICATE: THERE IS A FORK AND WE DO NOT ANSWER IT

- The office's own distinction: if a document requires an **authentication certificate**, the U.S. Department of State must also certify the state's signature; **an apostille does not need that step**. So the difference means **one more leg of travel**.
- **The office publishes no country list of its own** and its own guidance is plain: if you are not sure which type of certification is needed, ask **the consulate of the receiving country or the U.S. Department of State's office of authentications**.
- **So this guide makes no claim about which bucket Türkiye falls into**. Call the consulate general's call center and ask which one is required for your document. **Asking for the wrong process means the package comes back**, and because you are working by mail that costs you weeks, not a day.
- **Only documents executed in this state are within scope**. Do not send this state's office the certificate of a child born in a neighboring state; **that warning matters especially here**, because a household's documents can easily come from more than one state.
- **Federal documents are not certified at the state level**. For a federal document such as a certificate of naturalization, the office of authentications of the U.S. Department of State is the right address. **An expensive and frequent mistake**.

- 1 **Get the document.** For a birth or death certificate, **any county health department**; for a private document, a notary.
- 2 **For a notarized document get the county certification**, and go to **the county where the notary is commissioned**.
- 3 **Translate it if required and have the translation notarized.** Ask the Turkish institution that will receive the document, or the consulate, which translation is wanted.
- 4 **Get the certification last.** A certified document cannot be altered afterwards.
- 5 **Start early:** the office is not in this city, so build the calendar around dates rather than around a processing estimate.
- 6 **Do not confuse the reverse direction:** Turkish documents you will use in the United States for your immigration case are **apostilled in Türkiye** and submitted here with a **certified English translation**. No office here performs that step.
- 7 **And we make no claim about order:** consular certification and an apostille are **alternative routes, not two links in the same chain**. No official guidance answering whether the apostille or the translation comes first was found this round; ask the call center and get the answer in writing.

TIME DIFFERENCE AND FLIGHTS TO ISTANBUL

- **The state is not in a single time zone:** the federal time zone boundary runs through the state and the eastern part sits in another zone. **But this city is on Central time.** Factor the difference in when you call an institution in the east of the state.
- **The difference with Türkiye: 8 hours** ahead during daylight saving time and **9 hours** ahead during standard time. The clocks go back on **November 1, 2026**, so after that week the gap grows by an hour; because Türkiye does not observe daylight saving, you experience the change **one-sidedly**.
- **The consulate general is in the same time zone**, so you do not have to convert the published appointment and telephone hours.
- **The window for calling Türkiye is narrow and reversed:** in summer, when it is 17.00 in Türkiye it is 09.00 here. **Two channels solve it:** e-Devlet and the call center open twenty-four hours.
- **A name trap:** this city's airport carries the word International in its name, **but that does not mean there is a scheduled route to Türkiye.** The only nonstop international passenger route found in recent years was a **seasonal** leisure route, and **no announcement was found that it will return for 2026.** The airport's own destination list could not be read firsthand this round.
- **The conclusion, carefully written: research found no nonstop scheduled flight from here to Istanbul or to any point in Türkiye. We do not write that there is none.** When you search for a ticket, look at the flight list rather than the airport's name, and allow a generous connection time.
- **And this city has one advantage:** of the five places we cover, it is the **only one with intercity passenger rail**, one departure a day in each direction. Not a route abroad, but a real option for a domestic connection.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN MEMPHIS

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