

FOR TURKISH RESIDENTS OF MINNEAPOLIS

Consular and Apostille Matters from Minneapolis 2026

There is no Turkish mission in Minnesota and the in-person window is two and a half hours a day. The apostille, by contrast, is across the river in St. Paul: for you a half day rather than a journey.

SHORT ANSWER

All of Minnesota, Minneapolis included, falls within the consular district of the **Consulate General of Türkiye in Chicago**; the mission's own page lists its district as **13 Midwestern states** and Minnesota is on that list. **There is no Turkish mission in Minnesota**, and the honorary consulate in the Midwest is in another state. From Minneapolis the distance is roughly **650 kilometers**, meaning a flight or a full day's drive, and the detail that governs your planning is this: **in-person service by appointment runs only between 9.30 a.m. and noon**, two and a half hours a day. The apostille, by contrast, is **across the river in St. Paul** and costs **\$5 per apostille**; going in person is an option, but **appointments open only 14 days ahead**.

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
Duty officer, emergencies	+1 773 386 3213
E-mail	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Consular call center, 24 hours, 7 days	+90 312 292 29 29
Office hours	Weekdays 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
In-person service by appointment	Only 9.30 a.m. to noon
Telephone applications	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Consular district	13 Midwestern states; Minnesota is on the list

Getting there from Minneapolis: what this guide is really about

- **The time zone works in your favor:** Chicago and Minneapolis are both on Central time, so you do not have to convert an appointment slot in your head.
- **The in-person window is two and a half hours a day.** Your departure has to be built around it: the first flight of the morning if you fly, or leaving the day before if you drive. **A plan that arrives in the afternoon wastes the day.**
- **You can do the first leg without a car:** the metro's international airport is reachable from Minneapolis by light rail and the line stops at **both terminals**; travel between the two terminals is free.
- **Finish more than one errand in a single trip.** Book appointments on the same day or on consecutive days; because the window is narrow you may need two separate appointments for two separate errands, so ask the call center.
- **Cancel as soon as you know you cannot go.** One mission covers the whole Midwest and at this distance a slot in the queue is genuinely valuable.

Which errands are handled there

- Birth notification and civil registry matters; marriage notification and death notification.
- Passport renewal and a first passport; Turkish citizenship matters, **including notifying the civil registry of U.S. citizenship.**
- Military service matters; notarial acts, powers of attorney and signature certification.
- Judicial matters, criminal record certificates and service of documents; e-Devlet credentials; renewal of a Turkish driver license.
- Employment and homemaker certificates, labor and social security matters.
- **Almost all of it runs by appointment, and we do not print the document list in this guide.** Each service has its own fee and its own document list, and we could not verify item by item this round which service requires which documents. **Driving 650 kilometers with the wrong document would be the most expensive advice this guide could give you;** confirm the list from the appointment menu and the call center.

- 1 **Try e-Devlet first.** Civil registry, address and some document matters can be handled remotely; check here first which service is available that way. Seen from Minneapolis, that is the price of a plane ticket.
- 2 **Call the call center, +90 312 292 29 29.** It is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and it is the fastest way to learn which document is needed; being able to call at night because of the time difference is an advantage here.
- 3 **Ask about courier or mail.** Some matters run on documents sent in; ask the call center or the mission which ones are accepted, and do not send documents on your own initiative.
- 4 **If you need an apostille, finish it before the Chicago appointment.** The apostille is obtained across the river in St. Paul and you have to allow for mailing time.
- 5 **Book a morning slot.** In-person service runs 9.30 a.m. to noon and that window is not negotiable.

THE ATTACHED COUNSELORS IN THE SAME BUILDING

- **Education Counselor:** same address, +1 312 263 0644 extension 811, chicago@meb.gov.tr. For a child's school registration and equivalence matters in Türkiye you do not have to travel to another city; it can be added to the same appointment day.
- **Trade Counselor:** same address, extensions 888 and 812, chicago@trade.gov.tr.
- **Press Counselor:** same address, extension 835, chicago@iletisim.gov.tr.

Military service: we print no figures, and we say why

- Military service matters run through the consulate and appear as a separate heading in the mission's own list of services.
- **We print no amount, no age limit and no duration 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 around a wrong figure would be the worst service this guide could do you.
- **The right step:** call the call center and ask what applies to your own year of birth and status. The figures circulating on forums and private consultancy sites usually belong to earlier periods, and there are steps that cannot be undone once payment is made.
- **If you have become a U.S. citizen:** for dual citizens, having U.S. citizenship recorded in the Turkish civil registry is generally a precondition on the military service side.
- **Registration records:** check whether your Minneapolis address and marital status appear correctly in the civil registry; some of this can be done through e-Devlet.
- **If you are planning to fly to Türkiye over the year-end holidays,** confirm your own situation with the call center before buying the ticket.

Apostille: five dollars, and five grounds for rejection

ITEM	DETAIL
The unit	The Minnesota Secretary of State's authentication desk; it certifies the signature of a state official or a Minnesota notary where the document will be used outside the United States
Fee	\$5 per apostille , and an apostille is issued per document submitted , so two documents cost \$10
Mailing address	First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite N201, Saint Paul, MN 55101
Phone	(651) 296-2803 or 1-877-551-6767, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
E-mail	apostille.oss@state.mn.us
In person	By appointment , and appointments open 14 days ahead

ITEM	DETAIL
Return route	The document is mailed to the address on the form; if the form has no address, to the address on the payment. For tracking you may include a self-addressed stamped envelope or a prepaid courier label

- **A reader in Minneapolis has a real choice, and that is not true everywhere in this series:** you can choose between mail and going in person, because the office is just across the river in St. Paul. That is a convenience the reader in the far corner of the state does not have.
- **But the appointment window is narrow:** because appointments open 14 days ahead, do not plan on "going tomorrow". Open the calendar, book the slot, then prepare the documents.
- **We give no processing time, and that is deliberate.** The unit writes that documents are processed **in the order received** and that using express mail for the return does not speed up the work. There is no published time and we are not inventing one; the "six to eight weeks" figure circulating on the site concerns **notary commission renewals** rather than apostilles.
- **There is a conflict on payment and we print it as it stands:** the mail-in form asks for a check or money order, while the same office's mobile service page says only credit or debit cards are accepted. **Confirm** by writing or calling which payment method applies in the channel you will use.

FIVE GROUNDS FOR REJECTION: READ IT AS A CHECKLIST

- **An improper notarial act:** no notarial certificate at all, an invalid notary commission, or a stamp that does not match the signature.
- **A private document that has not been notarized.**
- **A fee that is short or missing altogether.**
- **A document issued outside Minnesota. This ground wastes the most time here:** most documents in the hands of someone newly arrived in this city come from another state or from a federal agency, and the Minnesota Secretary of State cannot apostille those. A federal document such as a certificate of naturalization or a U.S. passport goes to **the U.S. State Department's authentications office**; another state's document goes to that state's own office.
- **No original signature on the document.**
- **Do not break the order:** you obtain the document first, have it notarized if required, and **apostille last**. No change can be made to an apostilled document afterwards. And **translation is a separate errand:** the apostille certifies the original document, it does not translate the content.

The document itself: the first link is easy here

The first link in the apostille chain is the document itself, and in Minnesota that link is easier than expected. In the Minnesota Department of Health's own words, **all 87 counties operate on the same statewide system and serve customers regardless of where they live**. So if you live in Minneapolis you do not have to go to the county where the birth occurred; **the nearest county counter does the job**, and that holds for Minnesota births from 1935 onward. There is an official way out on the identification side too: **a person without acceptable identification can have a witness complete the official statement of identification form**. You can download the form in advance and go with your witness. **We could not verify the fee for a certified birth record in this county**, so call the county before you go. The same chain applies to a marriage record;

because of the **one transaction per appointment** rule on the license side, obtaining the record on the same day as the license may not be possible.

The time difference and flights to Istanbul

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

- Türkiye stays on the same time all year and does not observe daylight saving, so the gap shifts twice a year on its own. **Put November 1, 2026 in your calendar**, because it is very easy to be an hour out when calculating a connection while buying a ticket.
- **The practical window:** 9 a.m. here is currently 5 p.m. in Türkiye, and 6 p.m. after November. The easiest time to speak to family or a government office in Türkiye is **the morning here**. The trap in the other direction: if an institution in Türkiye works weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the window from which you can call starts after midnight; that is why the call center and e-Devlet also solve the time difference.
- **The honest answer on flights: Istanbul is not on** the metro's international airport's own nonstop route list. **Amsterdam** appears as the European gateway, and no destination toward Türkiye or the Middle East is listed. Because the page's interactive map did not fully load, **we say it is not on the list rather than that there certainly is none**.
- **The realistic routing is one connection:** through a European hub, or connecting to a U.S. gateway served by the Turkish flag carrier. **We do not print which U.S. gateway**, because we did not read the airline's own route list and naming the wrong city makes the ticket more expensive.
- **The size of the airport is good news:** according to the airport authority's own announcement, more than 36 million passengers and **35 nonstop international destinations** were reported for 2025, eight of them in Europe. Connection options are plentiful and the first leg departs from your own city; what is missing is the Istanbul route. **Seasonal routes are a real issue**, so check whether the route flies that month before buying.
- **One detail on trains:** the interstate train stops in the metro, but its station is in **downtown St. Paul**, so if you live in Minneapolis you have to plan a separate leg across town. Any plan that treats the two cities as one place breaks here.
- **The identification document for an international flight is your passport.** Minnesota's standard license is not an accepted document for flying.

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 the federal agencies. If you have a pending green card application, check your advance parole position before travelling to Türkiye. If you naturalize, remember to notify the Turkish civil registry of your U.S. citizenship; for dual citizens that is also a precondition on the military service side. And for Turkish documents you will use in the United States for your immigration case the direction reverses: those are apostilled in Türkiye and submitted here with a certified English translation.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN MINNEAPOLIS

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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