

FOR TURKISH NATIONALS IN OHIO

Chicago Consulate General Services Guide 2026

350 miles, a one-hour time difference and a two-and-a-half-hour window. Appointments, what you can finish remotely, military service, apostilles and the time difference.

SHORT ANSWER

There is no Turkish consulate in Ohio, and none in any neighboring state either. Ohio falls in the consular district of the **Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Chicago**. On consular access this is **one of the worst-served states in this series**, and that is the honest framing. Read three numbers together: Chicago is about **350 miles (560 km)** from Columbus, in a time zone **one hour behind** Ohio, and its **in-person consular window is only 09:30 to 12:00, by appointment**. So you drive 350 miles to reach a two-and-a-half-hour window. Do by **mail or through the e-Consulate** whatever you can.

The consular district: thirteen states

The Consulate General's own contact and about pages publish the district as a list of states: **Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin**. Thirteen midwestern states, with Ohio among them; we confirmed that from the mission's own pages rather than second hand. There is one piece of good news: this is a **Consulate General**, not an embassy's consular section, so an Ohio reader is served by a full consular post. But being the only consulate for thirteen states means appointment pressure; move early.

Contact and hours

ITEM	DETAILS
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr. (NBC Tower), Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611
Phone	+1 312 263 0644
Fax	+1 312 263 1449
Email	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Emergency duty line	+1 773 386 3213
Consular Call Center	24/7 +90 312 292 29 29

ITEM	DETAILS
Office hours	Monday to Friday 09:00 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:30
In-person application hours	09:30 to 12:00, by appointment only
Telephone enquiry hours	14:00 to 16:00
Appointments	Through the Consulate General's own booking system, with separate channels for Turkish nationals and for foreign nationals applying for a Turkish visa; you can look up or cancel an existing appointment
Website	Both a hyphenated and an unhyphenated address circulate online, but the one that works is the hyphenated one: chicago-cg.mfa.gov.tr

350 MILES AND TWO AND A HALF HOURS: HOW TO PLAN THE TRIP

- We calculated the distance and the driving time ourselves rather than taking them from the consulate: Columbus to Chicago is about **350 miles (560 km)**, **5.5 to 6 hours** of driving, or a short flight.
- And a critical detail on top: **Chicago is in the Central time zone, one hour behind Ohio.** This is the easiest trap to miss when you set the appointment time: a 09:30 appointment is actually 10:30 by your Ohio clock, or you miscalculate the other way and miss it. **Confirm which time zone the time on your appointment confirmation is written in.**
- If you have an errand that requires you in person (a passport renewal needing fingerprints, a power of attorney, a signature certification, a military service step requiring personal appearance), the 09:30 to 12:00 window realistically means **setting off the day before** or getting up before dawn.
- Reverse the order: **book the appointment first, then plan the trip**, never the other way round. If more than one person is going, check whether each needs a separate appointment.

What can you finish remotely?

For an Ohio reader the real saving is here. Civil registry extracts and **Formula A/B/C** documents, passports, ID cards, citizenship matters, notarial certifications, powers of attorney, death registrations, criminal record extracts and service of documents can in many cases be started through online.konsolosluk.gov.tr and **finished by mail**. That is how you avoid the Chicago trip. One caveat: we did not read the full category list in the Chicago Consulate General's booking menu in this research, so we cannot say item by item which errands definitely finish online. Before you book, call **+1 312 263 0644** during telephone enquiry hours (14:00 to 16:00) and ask whether your errand can be done online; **a phone call is cheaper than a 700-mile round trip.**

What it does and does not do

- **It does:** Turkish passports and ID cards (in person), registration of a birth, marriage or death that happened in the United States into the Turkish civil registry, powers of attorney and other notarial acts, military service procedures, certificates and copies, and Turkish visas for foreign nationals.

- **It does not:** issue U.S. documents; **apostille Ohio documents**; or intervene in a case of yours before USCIS or an immigration court.
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Fees and document lists: we could not confirm them

Before printing a fee we prefer to have read the source. **We could not read the Chicago Consulate General's own fee schedule or document lists in this research**, so we publish no figures. The general pattern we know from other missions runs like this: passports are issued in person only, students under 25 enrolled at a U.S. institution may be exempt from the fee with a signed enrollment letter, civil registry matters can be done in person or by mail, and powers of attorney are issued only at the mission. But that is **a pattern, not Chicago's own schedule**. Ask about the fee and the required documents on the line when you book, count your document list item by item, and bring originals together with photocopies; the most expensive mistake in this section is a second trip.

Turkish military service

- **Yoklama (registration):** for men born in 2007 the deadline is **December 31, 2026**. It is done at a mission or through e-Devlet; living in the United States does not remove the obligation, and **both the deferral route and the paid-service route depend on it having been done**. After the deadline an administrative fine applies under article 24 of Law no. 7179.
 - **The paid service amount:** for the July 1 to December 31, 2026 period it is the foreign-currency equivalent of **472,653.60 TL**, collected in U.S. dollars at the Turkish central bank rate on the day of payment. **A new six-month amount takes effect on January 1, 2027**.
 - **Transfer fee:** a cash transfer charge is added on top, but **we could not read the Chicago Consulate General's own charge**, so we publish no figure. Ask for the total on the line before your appointment and keep the receipt.
 - **Conditions:** a residence or work permit, **three years or 1,095 days** abroad, the Ministry of Defense online training at dovizle.msb.gov.tr, residence in the mission's consular district, and an in-person appointment.
 - **Dual citizens** born in the United States, or who arrived before the age of 18, can defer to the end of age 35 once they register their U.S. citizenship with the Turkish authorities. **F-1 students** defer through the mission's Education Attaché; **we could not read the Chicago attaché's contact details**, so ask the switchboard for them.
 - The figures in this section were verified in late September 2026 and not re-pulled in this research, so confirm the current amount before paying. The practical order is: do the yoklama, complete the Ministry of Defense training, then book the appointment. Do those three out of order and you have driven 350 miles for nothing.
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Apostille: the order matters

- 1 **Obtain the certified original.** An apostille is not issued on a photocopy. A birth or death certificate comes from the Ohio Department of Health or a local health district; for a marriage record you need a certified **marriage abstract** from the county probate court (\$2.00 in Franklin County).

- 2 **Get the apostille in Columbus.** Ohio Secretary of State, Client Service Center, 180 Civic Center Dr., Columbus OH 43215-4138 · **\$5 per document** · with Form 8003, a return envelope and payment · mailed requests are processed within two to three days · 614-728-9200.
- 3 **Leave the translation until last.** It is done by a sworn translator in Türkiye or one the consulate accepts, and the apostille stamp itself forms part of the translated text.
- 4 **Take it to the consulate or send it to Türkiye.** Because Türkiye is a party to the Hague Apostille Convention, the right instrument for a document going to Türkiye is **an apostille, not consular legalization**. Columbus first, then the consulate, not the other way round.

Time difference and the Istanbul flight

PERIOD	DIFFERENCE	TURKISH BUSINESS DAY (09:00-18:00 ISTANBUL) IN COLUMBUS TIME
From today to November 1, 2026	7 hours	02:00-11:00
November 1, 2026 to March 14, 2027	8 hours	01:00-10:00
After March 14, 2027	7 hours	02:00-11:00

All 88 Ohio counties are in the **Eastern** time zone. Türkiye stays on UTC+3 all year and does not change its clocks, so the U.S. side sets the difference. The practical consequence is blunt: the whole Turkish business day falls between the middle of the night and late morning in Columbus, so reaching an institution in Türkiye means getting up early. On flights: **there is no nonstop from Columbus to Istanbul**, and more broadly **no Ohio airport has a nonstop to Istanbul**. The only international nonstops from John Glenn Columbus International (CMH) are Toronto (year round), Montreal (seasonal) and Cancun (seasonal), with Punta Cana from January 8, 2027 and San Juan from February 13, 2027. **CMH has no transatlantic nonstop at all**, so a trip to Istanbul is built around a connection in every case.

DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH YOUR U.S. IMMIGRATION CASE

The Consulate General handles matters relating to Türkiye. Your U.S. visa, green card or naturalization applications belong to USCIS and the U.S. Department of State. If a green card application is pending, check your advance parole position before travelling to Türkiye. If you are planning a long stay in Türkiye for military service, discuss in advance how long you will be away and whether you need a re-entry permit.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN OHIO

Have a question about your immigration status?

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

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