

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · ROCKVALE

Turkish Consulate and Apostille Tasks from Rockvale 2026

Your mission is in Houston and its consular district was verified in both directions. The apostille authority is in the state capital and delivers the same day if you arrive before 2 p.m.

SHORT ANSWER

Tennessee is in the consular district of the **Consulate General of Türkiye in Houston**, and that is not an assumption: the consulate's own site lists its district as **eight states** and this state appears on four separate pages; in addition, **the pages of the other five Turkish consulates general in the United States were swept the same cycle and this state appears on none of them**. Know two things about hours before you travel: **the only window published for general consular business is 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, and **visa applications are taken separately, in a thirty minute window**. There is one **convenience**: the consulate is **in the same time zone** as you, so you do not have to convert the published hours. The state authority that certifies a U.S. document you will take to Türkiye is **in the state capital**, and **if you arrive before 2 p.m.** the document is ready the same day. **And there is a transportation planning problem here**: there is no fixed-route transit, the airport is in another county, and **research could not find** an intercity rail option.

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 a day, 7 days a week	+1 888 566 76 56
Working hours	Weekdays 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The mission publishes no afternoon counter hours for general consular business; this is the only window published
Visa application hours	2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. , a separate thirty minute window. The mission asks that you book before instructions are issued
Appointments	An appointment in advance for every transaction; the system runs through the mission's own menu

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

A comparison, because it has a practical consequence for a reader traveling from here: some consulates general offer two windows a day, morning and afternoon. **In Houston the afternoon holds only the thirty minute visa window.** What that means is this: **your chances of fitting two transactions into one day are slim. We do not write any distance or drive time,** but we say up front that the trip leaves the state.

The attache offices share the building, and even the suite

In one cycle of this series the attache offices were in **a different building** from the consulate and that guide sent readers to two separate addresses. **The situation is different here and we do not carry that warning over:** the **Religious Affairs Attache**, the **Education Attache** and the **Commercial Attache** all publish the consulate's address **and the same suite number**. So you can handle your child's credential recognition and your consular business in the same building; but appointments are booked separately and **the general transaction window is mornings only**.

The consular district: eight states, and a proximity trap

According to the consulate's own list, the district covers these states: 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.

THE CONSULATE YOUR NEIGHBOR USES MAY NOT BE YOURS

- The Consulate General in Chicago lists its district as **thirteen Midwestern states**, and that list includes **this state's northern neighbor, Kentucky**. This state is not on it.
- **So an acquaintance living on the other side of the line may belong to a different mission**, and the intuition of geographic proximity misleads on this question.
- **Confirm which mission covers your own state before you start your transaction.**

What runs through the consulate

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

appointment menu and the call center.

TWO TASKS THAT CAN BE DONE BY MAIL, AND A TRIP YOU MAY NOT HAVE TO TAKE

- Almost every transaction in the mission's menu carries the phrase **you must apply in person after making an appointment**.
- **But two exceptions were found.** First: for the **registration of a marriage performed before foreign local authorities**, the menu says **you may apply by mail**. Second: an **international marriage record extract** can be obtained either by appointment or through an online link with delivery to your address.
- **That is directly useful for a reader who marries here:** if you took the license from the county clerk and held the ceremony here, you may not have to travel for the registration.
- **The right step:** before booking, call the call center and ask **whether your own transaction can be done by mail**. There may be an exception not written in the menu, and **a phone call is cheaper than a trip**.

Apostille: the authority is in the state capital and can be same day

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	Third floor customer service desk , weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Same day delivery	If you arrive before 2 p.m. For a reader living in this settlement that window is usable only by traveling to that city ; if you cannot make it, the mail route is open
Fee	\$2.00 per document . Because this is a fee figure, confirm it on the authority's own page before you pay
Scope	The authority issues an apostille or a certificate for documents issued, made or certified by county clerks, the state office of vital records and the Secretary of State

And there is a way to get there, but it takes a reservation: the county's demand-response transit program has a **flat one-way fare** to that city, **\$10.00**, and trips leaving the county require **seventy-two hours** notice. **So using the same day delivery window is possible, but you have to set the plan up at least three days ahead. We do not write any distance or drive time.**

Route A: a notarized private document, county certification required

- 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 or bring the authority's own application form, the document, **the name of the certifying county** and the fee to the Secretary of State.

The test at this step is easily misunderstood, so we write it out: what controls is not where the document was signed or which county you live in, it is the county where the notary is commissioned. If you work or

shop in another county and signed before a notary there, this step goes to that county. **A notary from a neighboring state does not enter this chain at all**, because the authority only processes documents issued in this state. **And there is a convenience here:** the county clerk's office is already **the door where you register your vehicle**, and because there is no city government **there is only one place to go**; you can plan two tasks into one trip, **but ask about appointments and counter arrangements first**, because the two may not run from the same desk. The county clerk's certification fee varies from county to county; the figures seen this cycle came from secondary sources and **we write no figure**.

Route B: vital records, no county certification needed

- The authority's own sentence: **if you already hold a certified copy and an apostille needs to be added to it, you may send your request and your document directly to the Secretary of State**, together with the \$2 per document fee.
- **That is not how it works everywhere in this series.** In some states a birth or death certificate had to be **reissued** for an apostille and carry a particular signature. **There is no such requirement here:** a certified copy you obtained years ago can go straight into the process.
- **If you do not hold a certified copy** you send **two separate payments** to the vital records office, one to the office for the copies and one to the Secretary of State for the apostille; and **the vital records office forwards the document, the payment and the request itself. Seen from here, that removes a trip entirely.**
- **And getting a vital record is already easy in this state, which is a real advantage for a reader in a rural settlement:** birth and death certificates are available from **all ninety-five county health departments**, so you do not have to leave this settlement for that step. **But the same sentence is not written for marriage and divorce records;** for those the central office or the mail route applies.

APOSTILLE OR CERTIFICATE: WE DO NOT ANSWER THAT ONE

- The authority's own distinction: if a document requires a **certificate**, the U.S. Department of State must also authenticate the state's signature; **with an apostille that step is not needed**. So the difference is one more leg of travel.
- **The authority does not publish its own country list** and its own guidance is explicit: if you are not sure which type of authentication is required, ask **the consulate of the receiving country or the U.S. Department of State's office of authentications**.
- **That is why this guide makes no claim about which bucket Türkiye falls into.** Call the call center and ask which one is required for your document. **Asking for the wrong one means the package comes back.**
- **Only documents issued in this state are in scope.** Do not send a certificate for a child born in another state to this state's authority.
- **Federal documents are not authenticated at the state level.** For a document such as a certificate of naturalization the contact is the U.S. Department of State's office of authentications; this is an expensive and common mistake.
- **We write no figure for mail processing time.** The authority's page gives no time frame; **if you are working by mail, start early** and build the calendar around dates rather than durations.

Do not break the order

- 1 Obtain the document.** Any county health department for a birth or death certificate; a notary for a private document.
- 2 Get the county certification on a notarized document,** and go to **the county where the notary is commissioned.**
- 3 Have it translated and the translation notarized if needed.** Ask the Turkish institution that will receive the document, or the consulate, which translation is required.
- 4 Get the certification last.** A certified document cannot be altered afterward.
- 5 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 authority here performs that step.

And we make no claim about sequence. For U.S. documents being sent to Türkiye, **consular certification and an apostille are alternative routes, not two links of the same chain. No official guidance answering whether the apostille or the translation comes first could be found this cycle,** so this guide imposes no order; ask the call center and request the answer in writing.

MILITARY SERVICE: THE ORDER IS CRITICAL, AND WE WRITE NO AMOUNTS

- **Here is the order, and the application is not accepted if it is broken: distance learning first**, the obligor must complete the program on the Ministry of National Defense's distance learning portal; **then the in-person application**. The mission's own announcement is explicit: **applications made by mail are not accepted**.
- **If you also hold U.S. citizenship there is one more step first**: for a military service transaction to proceed, **the multiple citizenship must first be registered in the Turkish civil registry**. **Without that registration the military service transaction does not start**, and for a reader traveling from here that can mean **two separate trips**.
- **The conditions are written in the announcement**: residence in one of the eight states in the consular district; being a worker, employer, member of a profession or trade with a residence or work permit, or a seafarer on a foreign flagged vessel; and having worked in the United States for **at least three years** in total, excluding time spent in Türkiye, while still holding that status at the time of application. **There is an exception for dual citizens**: those who have actually been abroad for at least three years are not subject to the work requirement.
- **The status distinction affects years of your life**: in student status, **practical training periods within the curriculum do not count**; students working on post-graduation work authorization are among the counted statuses. **Exchange program participants receiving a scholarship from Türkiye cannot benefit from this law while they receive it**.
- **Seafarers cannot be processed in Houston**. The announcement says these applications can only be made at **two other consulates general**. **We do not write the names of those two missions**, because their consular districts were not measured this cycle; confirm with the call center.
- **The announcement's own warning**: all company and personal details on the tax forms must **match** the employer letters. **On payment, cash and personal checks are not accepted**, and the announcement's instruction is this: **do not pay before the consulate determines that you meet the conditions**. After the application **no written notice is sent**; follow-up is through e-Devlet.
- **Paid military service is not a consular transaction**: there is no such heading in the mission's transaction menu. **We could not verify its current terms, its authority or its amount this cycle and we write none of them**. On the foreign currency military service side we also **write no amount**; the figure is set from period to period and you would bear the cost of planning around a wrong one.
- **No official sentence could be found on the effect on entry and exit**. **We say neither that it affects them nor that it does not**; consult your Military Service Branch and the consulate before you buy a ticket.

TIME DIFFERENCE, THE AIRPORT AND RAIL

- **The state is not in a single time zone:** the federal time zone boundary runs through the state, and **the east is on Eastern time while the west is on Central time. This county is west of the line**, so it is on Central time. Account for the difference when you call an agency in the eastern part of the state; **writing a single statewide time difference would be a mistake.**
- **The difference with Türkiye:** Türkiye is **8 hours** ahead during daylight saving time and **9 hours** ahead during standard time. Clocks go back on **November 1, 2026**, so the gap grows by an hour after that week; because Türkiye does not observe daylight saving, you experience the change one-sidedly.
- **The consulate is on Central time as well**, so you do not have to convert the published appointment and phone hours. But the window is narrow: the only window published for general business is **9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**
- **The window for calling Türkiye is narrow in the other direction:** when it is 5 p.m. in Türkiye it is 9 a.m. here in summer. **Two channels solve it:** [e-Devlet](#) and the **call center**, open twenty-four hours.
- **Flights:** your airport is the international airport in the state's largest city, and it announced reaching **115 nonstop destinations** in fiscal year 2026. **But there is a name trap:** the airport's name contains the word International, **and that does not mean there is a scheduled route to Türkiye. Research could not find a scheduled nonstop flight from here to Istanbul or to any point in Türkiye**, and Türkiye does not appear on the European destination list the airport published either. **We do not write flatly that there is none**, because the airport's own destination list could not be read first hand; **and we name no individual routes.** When you search for tickets, look at connecting options and confirm the routing on the carrier's own site.
- **Plan how you will reach the airport from the start, and here that really is a planning task:** there is no fixed-route city bus, the county's dial-a-ride service requires **seventy-two hours** notice for trips crossing a county line, and the airport is in another county. **Leave an extra day in that plan during winter.**
- **On rail the answer is short: research could not find an intercity passenger rail station** in this settlement or its county, and the regional commuter line does not serve this county. **So do not plan to reach a connecting point by train.**
- **Luggage and identification:** the identification you will use on an international flight is a passport. **We do not write any distance or drive time;** factor in both the trip to the airport and the winter regime from the start.

TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN ROCKVALE

Have a question about your immigration status?



Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients in Rockvale and the surrounding area, 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 12, 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/rockvale-immigration-attorney