

FOR TURKISH CITIZENS IN SCHAUMBURG

Turkish Consulate General in Chicago: Services Guide 2026, a Day Out from Schaumburg

Passports, Turkish ID cards, birth and marriage registration, military service, powers of attorney and apostilles. How to book, car and train options, and a closed-counter warning.

SHORT ANSWER

The consulate is at 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Suite 2900 (NBC Tower, 29th floor), Chicago, IL 60611. Phone +1 312 263 0644, with an after-hours emergency line on +1 773 386 3213. In-person service is by appointment only, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, booked at konsolosluk.gov.tr. From Schaumburg it is about 32 miles and an estimated 50 minutes by car without traffic, or roughly an hour by train. The certificate you need for registration comes from the Cook County Clerk, and the Rolling Meadows counter is closed.

Contact and appointments

ITEM	DETAIL
Address	455 N. Cityfront Plaza Dr., Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60611 (NBC Tower, 29th floor)
Phone	+1 312 263 0644 · after hours +1 773 386 3213
Email and fax	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr · fax +1 312 263 1449
Office hours	Weekdays 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
In-person service	By appointment only, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Information by phone	2 to 4 p.m.
Consular Call Center (24/7)	+90 312 292 29 29
Consular district	13 states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin
Attache	The Education Attache is at the same address, chicago@meb.gov.tr

- 1 konsolosluk.gov.tr → Randevu Al (book an appointment)
- 2 Consular services for Turkish citizens → Consulate General in Chicago

- 3 Pick the service. The "Randevu Al" button on the consulate's own site goes to the same system, and you can check or cancel your appointment there.
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Getting there from Schaumburg

- **By car:** about 32 miles and an estimated 50 minutes without traffic. The words "without traffic" matter: your appointment falls between 9:30 a.m. and noon, which is the morning rush, and on I-90 and I-94 the time easily doubles. The consulate is in Streeterville and parking nearby is paid; we did not research the rates.
 - **By train:** the Schaumburg station, 2000 S. Springinsguth Rd., is on Metra's Milwaukee District West (MD-W) line in fare Zone 4. Metra's own timetable puts Chicago Union Station at about 55 to 60 minutes; it is \$6.75 one way, \$13.50 for a weekday day pass and \$7 for a weekend or holiday day pass.
 - **The last stretch:** from Union Station it is about 1.8 miles to the consulate; walking takes roughly 40 minutes and most people take a taxi or rideshare for that part. Allow an hour and three quarters door to door.
 - **Read the timetable for the train you need:** weekday midday trains run roughly hourly and more often in the morning. We do not name a specific train here, because we could not confidently match the timetable lines to a 9:30 appointment and Metra itself says the schedule can change. Check the [MD-W line schedule](#) for your travel day and take the service before the one you think you need.
 - **A labeling muddle:** the village's own Metra page still calls its fare link "Schaumburg Zone F". That is a leftover from Metra's old zone system; on Metra's own station page the station is Zone 4. Do not go looking for a Zone F.
 - **Timing:** applications are only taken in the morning. Whichever route you pick you have to leave early; for a 9:30 appointment leave at least an hour of margin for traffic or delay.
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Being close does not make the appointment easier

The consular district covers thirteen states. People coming from Detroit, Minneapolis or Cincinnati share the same calendar, and appointments close weeks in advance. A short trip does not mean a short queue: look at the booking screen the day you realize you need something, and do not wait for the last month of your passport. Cancelled slots fall back into the system, so checking the screen several days in a row pays off. Most readers of this series buy a plane ticket for a consular errand; the advantage of living in Schaumburg is finishing the same errand in a day out in the city.

Passports, ID cards and powers of attorney

A passport is issued in person by appointment only; fingerprints are taken, so there is no mail option. A Turkish ID card is the same. A power of attorney is drawn up only inside the consulate building: if you need one for a sale, an inheritance matter or a court case in Türkiye, get the text from your lawyer beforehand, because the appointment slot is short. Fees vary by service and by year; confirm the current list with the consulate or the call center before your appointment rather than trusting old figures found online. A U.S. passport is a far easier errand: the Schaumburg Township counter in Hoffman Estates is walk-in (1 Illinois Blvd., 847-285-4561).

Birth and marriage registration

- **The document:** when you register a child born in Schaumburg, or a marriage made here, in the Turkish civil registry, use a certified long-form copy. The certificate comes from the Cook County Clerk.
- **Which counter is open:** the Rolling Meadows vital records counter is closed. The nearest open counter is the Skokie Courthouse, 5600 W. Old Orchard Rd., Room 149, 847-470-7233; the others are Chicago, Maywood and Markham. We could not verify the hours or the appointment rule on the official page, so call before you go and set aside half a day for the round trip to Skokie.
- **Birth certificate fees:** a certified copy is \$15 for the first and \$4 for each additional one, and in person most records are printed while you wait. Payment is cash or card (\$1.25 extra by debit, \$1.75 by credit); checks are not accepted. Remote orders go through VitalChek for a \$13.45 fee, by phone on 866-252-8974, or by mail.
- **An alternative door:** after Rolling Meadows closed, Palatine Township started a pilot for certificate orders (721 S. Quentin Rd., Suite 101, 847-358-6700). Do not miss the distinction: the pilot issues **copies of certificates**, not marriage **licenses**. We could not verify whether it serves people living outside Palatine, or its fees.
- **The marriage license:** \$60, both parties together and in person, effective the day after it is issued and valid 60 days, and only for a ceremony held in Cook County. You return the signed license to the Clerk within 10 days of the ceremony. A foreign passport appears on the Clerk's list as acceptable on its own; that comes from a February 2025 page capture, so confirm before you go. Civil ceremonies take place at the Marriage and Civil Union Court in Chicago (119 W. Randolph St., lower level) six days a week, and the suburban district courthouses, Rolling Meadows included, also perform ceremonies: so you can marry there, you just cannot get the license there.
- Then you get the **apostille** (below) and register the document with the Consulate General. If you change your name, update your USCIS and SSA records too; the nearest SSA offices are Bloomingdale, Mount Prospect and Elgin.

Military service (askerlik)

- **Registration (yoklama):** men born in 2007 and anyone liable without a deferment must complete registration by December 31, 2026, through the consulate or e-Devlet.
- **Paid exemption, July 1 to December 31, 2026:** the foreign-currency equivalent of 472,653.60 Turkish lira. The Consulate General in Chicago collects it in dollars at the Central Bank rate on the day of payment, plus a transfer fee; ask the consulate for the current amount. The figure changes on January 1, 2027, and late December appointments are the first to fill.
- **Conditions:** working in the United States with a residence or work permit, at least 3 years (1,095 days) of work abroad excluding time spent in Türkiye, completion of the Ministry of National Defense [distance course](#), and residence in the consular district. Schaumburg is in Illinois, so you meet that last condition directly. Applications are in person by appointment only.
- **Dual citizens:** people born in the United States, or who came as minors and naturalized, can defer until the end of age 35. The U.S. citizenship has to be registered in the Turkish civil registry first. Multiple citizens do not have to meet the work condition; 3 years abroad is enough.

- **F-1 students:** deferment goes through the Chicago Education Attache at chicago@meb.gov.tr. The attache is in the same building as the consulate, so one trip can cover both errands.

Apostilles: an Illinois document for use in Türkiye

- 1 Get the original first.** Schaumburg is in Cook County, so you get a certified birth or marriage certificate from the Cook County Clerk and a divorce decree from the Cook County Circuit Clerk. Which counter to use is set out above; do not go to Rolling Meadows.
- 2 If notarization is needed** (private documents such as a power of attorney, an undertaking or a declaration), have it notarized by an Illinois notary. A notary from another state cannot be authenticated in Illinois. Do not take a document signed by a court clerk or a judge to a notary; those are already official.
- 3 The apostille:** Illinois Secretary of State, Index Department, 160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 100, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-814-8218, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (the last half hour is document review only). The fee is **\$2 per document**, and each document needs its own apostille. Pay with a single check or money order made out to the Illinois Secretary of State; ask the office about cash and cards.

ROUTE	HOW	TIME
By mail (the most practical from the suburbs)	The Application for Authentication form, the original documents and a stamped self-addressed envelope, to the Index Department	7 to 14 business days
In person, Index Department	160 N. LaSalle St., Suite 100	While you wait, first come first served
In person, Chicago Flagship	125 W. Monroe St., 312-814-5896	While you wait
Suburban counters	Lake Zurich (951 S. Rand Rd) to the north, Melrose Park (1903 N. Mannheim Rd) to the southeast, Aurora (970 N. Lake St, Suite B) to the southwest	While you wait

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE CONSULATE

- If you are not in a hurry the mail route is the sensible one from Schaumburg: sending several documents in one envelope costs less than a day out in the city. For something urgent there are three suburban counters; we did not measure which is closest to you, so pick by your route and call first to confirm they are doing apostilles that day.
- Because it is only \$2 per document, it makes sense to apostille several certified copies of a birth certificate, a marriage certificate and a diploma in one go.
- The Index Department and the consulate are not within walking distance of each other, but both are downtown; if you want to cover both in one trip, put the consulate appointment in the morning and the apostille in the afternoon.
- The consulate is closed on both U.S. federal holidays and Turkish public holidays. The announcement list on its site is not kept current, so if a relative is traveling in from out of town, have them confirm with the call center.
- Federal documents such as an FBI criminal record check or a certificate of naturalization are apostilled not by Illinois but by the U.S. Department of State Office of Authentications: Form DS-4194, \$20 per document. An apostille does not translate the document; a sworn translation may still be needed in Türkiye.

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

The consulate handles matters relating to Türkiye. Your U.S. visa, green card or citizenship applications are matters for USCIS and the U.S. Department of State. Türkiye has been a party to the Hague Apostille Convention since 1985, so an apostilled Illinois document does not need separate consular certification. A marriage license on its own gives no immigration status and no work permission. If a green card application is pending, check your advance parole position before you travel to Türkiye. And if you naturalize, remember to report your U.S. citizenship to the Turkish civil registry; for dual citizens that is a precondition for a military service deferment.

TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN SCHAUMBURG

Have a question about your immigration status?



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