

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE · TEXAS

Turkish Consulate and Apostille Matters from Texas 2026

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SHORT ANSWER

All of Texas falls under the Turkish Consulate General in Houston. This comes from the consular district line on the mission's own contact page, and the district covers **eight states:** Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. **In person applications run on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and every transaction needs its own appointment.** An apostille is not issued at the consulate but at a **state office**, and two things changed this round: the office now issues **a single combined certificate** and **its domain changed.** **And one figure is left out on purpose:** the transfer fee that appears in the four Texas city guides could not be found on any current page of the mission.

The mission and the district

ITEM	DETAILS
Mission	Consulate General of the Republic of Türkiye in Houston
Address	5333 Westheimer Road, Suite 1050, Houston, TX 77056
Telephone	+1-346-439 65 60
After-hours emergency line	+1-832-774 18 61
Email	consulate.houston@mfa.gov.tr
In person hours	Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Appointments	Through the ministry's consular appointment system; each transaction needs its own appointment
Consular call center, 24 hours a day	+1 888 566 76 56 from the United States and Canada, +90 312 292 29 29 from Türkiye
Consular district	Eight states: Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas

So it makes no difference whether you live in **Dallas, Austin, San Antonio or El Paso**; passport renewals, powers of attorney, civil registry matters and military service applications all run through the same door.

- **Attached offices at the same address:** the Education Attaché (+1-713-325 28 62, houston@meb.gov.tr), the Religious Affairs Attaché (+1-832-798 01 35) and the Commercial Attaché (+1-832-623 71 44, houston@ticaret.gov.tr). **They share the address but are separate units;** confirm which one handles your matter before you book.
- **Closure days:** the mission's own holiday list shows these days closed: **January 1, January 19, February 16, March 20, May 25, May 27, June 19, July 3, September 7, October 12, October 29, November 11, November 26, December 24 and December 25, 2026;** and in 2027, **January 1 and January 18.** Because the list combines Turkish and United States holidays, the office can be closed on a day you would not expect.
- **Mobile consular service, a negative finding:** the announcement archive was read from end to end and **the most recent mobile consular announcement for Dallas is dated December 19, 2024.** No new one has appeared since. **We do not say the service no longer exists;** it is announced when it happens, so it can return.
- **What we leave out:** consular transaction fees are updated at the start of each year and were not measured this round; the document lists for powers of attorney and civil registry matters vary by transaction and appear in the appointment system once you select the transaction.

TURKISH MILITARY SERVICE: WHAT THE MISSION PUBLISHES AND WHAT WE DO NOT

- **Military service matters for Texas run through the Houston mission,** applications are taken in person and by appointment, and **applications by mail are not accepted.**
- **The order matters:** the ministry's distance learning program must be completed **first;** an appointment is of no use before the training is finished.
- **If you are also a U.S. citizen,** the U.S. citizenship must first be **registered with the Turkish civil registry.** Do not reverse that order.
- **We publish no transfer fee.** The figure that appears in the four Texas city guides could not be found on any current page of the mission, and other missions publish widely differing amounts. **Ask your own mission before you apply.**
- **Two official sources disagree about seafarers and we take no side:** one mission's 2026 information note lists the missions authorized to handle seafarer transactions in the United States as **Los Angeles, New York and Miami,** and **Houston is not on that list.** Meanwhile the Houston mission itself publishes a separate application guide for **deferment in seafarer status.** These may not be the same transaction, but collapsing them into one sentence would be wrong. **Confirm with the call center first.**
- **Does it affect entry to and exit from Türkiye: no official sentence answering that could be read this round,** so we write neither that it does nor that it does not. Obtain your military service status document from the Turkish e-government portal before you travel and ask your own conscription office or the call center.
- **A detailed Turkish-language treatment of conscription deadlines, the foreign-currency route and deferment is published in the Turkish edition of this guide and on the Turkish page.**

Apostille: the terminology changed and so did the domain

The only competent authority is the **Office of the Texas Secretary of State**, and by the office's own sentence it is the **only agency in the state** that can certify Texas public records for use abroad. **Two things changed this round and the four Texas city guides print both in their old form.** First, the terminology: the office now issues a **single combined certificate** called the Universal Apostille, and in the office's words it **serves as both an authentication and an apostille and is accepted in every country**; the form name changed accordingly. Second, **the office's domain changed.**

ROUTE	DAYS	TURNAROUND	NOTE
In person by appointment	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	Same day	Up to 10 documents per person, company or transaction; one appointment per day; a confirmation email is required
In person without an appointment	Monday and Friday	Same day	Up to 10 documents; the office's own warning: the wait can exceed one hour ; groups of no more than two
Bulk drop box	Every weekday	72 hours	For more than 10 documents ; registration in the drop box system and a separate bulk request form are required. Absent from all four city guides
Mail		About two weeks	Request form and payment; a check or money order must be drawn on a U.S. bank and made payable to the office

- **The fee is \$15.00 per document.** The office stresses this: **per document, not per page.** Adoption documents use a separate form and the fee is **\$10.00** per document, capped at **\$100.00** per adoption.
- **Address and hours:** Authentications Unit, 400 West 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701; weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; telephone (512) 463-5705. In person the office accepts a check, a money order, a credit or debit card, or **cash in the exact amount**; credit cards are not accepted by mail.
- **Naming the country is mandatory:** the request form asks **which country the document will be used in.** The office does not issue apostilles for documents to be used within the United States.
- **The five-year rule:** certified records must have been **issued within the last five years.** So you go with a **newly issued certified copy** rather than the old birth or marriage certificate in your drawer.
- **Recordable documents** (marriage licenses, divorce decrees, court orders, birth and death certificates, criminal history records) **cannot be certified through a notarization**; they need a **certified copy** issued by a state or county official. **Non-recordable documents** (powers of attorney, diploma copies, passport copies, corporate documents, translations) can be notarized by a Texas notary.
- **A separate requirement for translations:** the translation must include a statement by the translator identifying the translation service, bearing a properly notarized signature, with the original or a copy of the translated document attached.
- **A negative finding that saves the reader a step:** neither of the two pages read at the office contains a **separate county clerk pre-certification step.** You obtain a **certified copy** from the unit that issued your birth or marriage record and send it directly to the state office.
- **What the office does not certify:** original corporate filing documents, **federal documents**, and documents from another state or country. For a federal document the reader is directed to the U.S. Department of

State office of authentications; **the form name and fee in the four city guides could not be verified this round and are not published here.**

- **A change in appearance:** certificates are now issued with a **black and white seal** and the gold seal is gone. If your document does not look the way you expected, this may be why.
- **The Turkish side:** Türkiye is a party to the convention, ratified July 31, 1985, **in force September 29, 1985.** So the apostille route is open between the two countries and **no additional foreign ministry certification is required.** In the other direction, physical apostilles in Türkiye are issued by provincial and district governor's offices; the **electronic apostille** has been in force since January 1, 2019 and since late 2023 can be obtained through the e-government portal.
- **A fine point:** the United States is **not** among the states party to the convention that waives an apostille for multilingual civil registry extracts. So a Turkish civil registry document to be used in the United States does need an apostille.

THE TIME DIFFERENCE SPLITS IN TWO INSIDE THE STATE

- **Texas is not in a single time zone, and none of the four Texas city guides says so.**
- Under the text of the federal regulation, the boundary between the Central and Mountain zones runs south along the **eastern line of Hudspeth County** in the west of the state.
- **El Paso and Hudspeth counties are on Mountain time** and the rest of the state is on **Central time.** The same regulation also places municipalities sitting on the boundary **in the Mountain zone.**
- **The consular window runs on Central time;** for a reader coming from El Paso it opens **an hour early in local terms.** Say which zone you are in when you confirm an appointment time.
- **The U.S. daylight saving calendar is in statute:** it begins on the **second Sunday** in March and ends on the **first Sunday** in November. In 2026 it ends on **November 1, 2026** and in 2027 it begins on **March 14, 2027.** Türkiye stays in the same zone all year and does not shift its clocks.

PART OF TEXAS	DURING DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME	OUTSIDE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
Central time: Dallas, Houston, Austin, San Antonio and most of the state	8 hours behind	9 hours behind
Mountain time: El Paso and Hudspeth counties	9 hours behind	10 hours behind

- **Calling institutions in Türkiye:** when the working day ends in Türkiye it is the early morning on Central time. Put calls to a conscription office, a bank or a lawyer in **the first hours of a Texas morning.**
- **Istanbul flights:** research found **two nonstop routes** from Texas to Türkiye, both operated by Turkish Airlines: **Istanbul to Houston** and **Istanbul to Dallas Fort Worth.** **We publish no days or frequency;** check the current schedule on [the airline's own page](#).
- **Research found no nonstop route for Austin, San Antonio or El Paso. We do not say none exists,** we say we did not find one.
- **We publish no distance or flight time figure.** The four city guides carry duration figures; none of them was verified from a source this round.

- 1 **Confirm that your appointment matches the type of transaction** and that the date is not on the holiday list.

- 2 **Start early.** The in person window closes before noon; if you are coming from El Paso, account for the time difference.
- 3 **For military service, complete the distance learning program first;** an appointment is of no use before it is finished.
- 4 **Confirm every amount before you pay,** and note that this document publishes no transfer fee.
- 5 **Plan the apostille backwards:** find out first what the institution in Türkiye that will receive the document requires.
- 6 **Obtain a newly issued certified copy from the unit that issued the record** (remember the five-year rule), attach **the translator's notarized statement** if a translation is required, and then apply to the state office.
- 7 **If you have more than ten documents, ask about the bulk drop box;** that route appears in none of the four city guides.
- 8 **And accept one thing up front: the consulate does not do the apostille, the state office does.** Getting the order wrong wastes a trip.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN TEXAS

Have a question about your immigration status?

Attorney Asim Clinch serves clients across Texas, 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.

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