

FOR TURKISH RESIDENTS OF WEST LAFAYETTE

Turkish Consular Work and Apostilles from West Lafayette 2026

There is no Turkish mission in Indiana, the in-person window is two and a half hours a day in another time zone, and the apostille office is in another city. Against that, the most expensive link in the chain is free on campus.

SHORT ANSWER

The whole of Indiana, this town included, falls in the consular district of the **Turkish Consulate General in Chicago**; the mission's own site lists the district as **13 Midwestern states** and Indiana stands second on the list on two separate pages. **There is no Turkish authority inside Indiana where you can get your business done.** The detail that drives all planning: **the Consulate General is on Central time and this county is on Eastern time.** The published hours are not your hours; **read them adding one hour.** On the apostille side the longest link in the chain is here too: **the state's only authentication office is in the state capital, it has no branch and it works by appointment only.** Against that, the step the chain repeats most often, **notarization**, is available in this city **free for one hour on Friday mornings**; the detail is in our official offices guide.

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, out-of-hours emergencies	+1 773 386 3213
Email	consulate.chicago@mfa.gov.tr
Consular call center, 24 hours, 7 days	+90 312 292 29 29
Working hours	Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Central time
In-person reception by appointment	9:30 a.m. to noon only , Central time, which is 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. your time
Applications by telephone	2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Central time, which is 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. your time

ITEM	DETAIL
Consul General	Tahir Bora Atatanir
Consular district	13 Midwestern states; Indiana is on the list. The only honorary consulate general in the Midwest is in Detroit

ONE HOUR OF DIFFERENCE IS A REAL LOSS OF TELEPHONE TIME HERE

- **The telephone application window is 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. your time.** Looking at the published hours and calling at 2:00 means calling an hour early, and most of the time you will get no answer. **This is the easiest line in this guide to skip and the one that helps most.**
- **The in-person window is two and a half hours a day** and it too is Central time; 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. your time. Reaching it from here without an early start is hard. **A plan that gets you there in the afternoon wastes the day.**
- **Use your term calendar.** For a student or a scholar the cheapest time for this trip is a break between terms; lining a consular appointment up with exam week is two losses at once.
- **Cancel the moment you know you cannot go.** One mission covers the whole Midwest and an appointment slot is genuinely valuable at this distance.
- **We give no distance figures,** because none came from a source this round. Whether you drive or fly is your decision.
- **Finish more than one job in a single trip.** Take the appointments on the same day or on consecutive days; because the window is narrow you may need two separate appointments for two jobs, so ask the call center.

What runs through the consulate

- Birth notifications and civil registry matters; marriage notifications and death notifications.
 - Passport renewals and first passports; Turkish citizenship matters, **including notifying the Turkish registry of US citizenship.**
 - Military service matters; notarial services, powers of attorney and signature certification.
 - Judicial matters, criminal record certificates and service of documents; e-Devlet credentials; Turkish driving license renewal.
 - Employment and social security matters; estate matters.
 - **Almost all of it runs by appointment, and we do not print the document lists here.** Each transaction has its own fee and its own document list and we could not verify them one by one this round. **Setting off with the wrong documents 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 done remotely; check there which of them can.
 - 2 Call the call center on +90 312 292 29 29.** It is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so the time zone problem disappears and it is the fastest way to learn which documents you need.
 - 3 Ask about the courier or postal route.** Some matters run by sending documents in; ask which are accepted and do not mail anything on your own initiative.

- 4 **Solve the notary step on campus.** The student legal service runs a **free notary hour on Fridays from 10 to 11 a.m.**, and that is the step a power of attorney repeats most.
- 5 **If you need an apostille, finish it before the Chicago appointment.** The office is in the state capital and works by appointment only; chain the two trips in that order.
- 6 **Take a morning appointment** and read the time as Central. The in-person window is not negotiable.

THE ATTACHÉ OFFICES IN THE SAME BUILDING, AND WHAT THEY ARE WORTH TO AN ACADEMIC FAMILY

- **Education attaché:** same address and floor, +1 312 263 0644 extension 811, chicago@meb.gov.tr.
This is particularly valuable for this guide's reader: scholarship obligations, a child's school registration in Türkiye and diploma equivalence do not require a trip to a different city, and **can be added to the same appointment day**. For an academic family that means two jobs in one journey.
- **Trade attaché:** same address and floor, extensions 888 and 812, chicago@trade.gov.tr.
- **Press attaché:** same address and floor, extension 835, chicago@iletisim.gov.tr.

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

- Military service matters run through the consulate and sit as a separate heading on the mission's own service menu.
- **We print no amount, no age limit and no period 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 against a wrong figure would be the worst service this guide could give you.
- **There is an extra question for a reader who is studying:** deferment for those studying abroad has its own rule, and that goes to the same place. For matters tied to your studies, the form and translation of the document from your school is the first thing you will be asked for.
- **The right step:** call the call center and ask what applies to your own birth year and status. Amounts circulating on forums and private advisory sites usually belong to earlier periods, and there are steps that cannot be undone once payment is made.
- **The call center being open around the clock helps especially here**, because on Eastern time Türkiye is seven hours ahead in summer and eight after November, and the overlap of working hours is very narrow.
- **If you have become a US citizen:** for dual citizens, notifying the Turkish registry of US citizenship is generally a precondition for the military service side.
- **If you need a power of attorney, remember the free notary on campus**, and remember the window is narrow and by appointment. Check too that your address and marital status appear correctly in the Turkish registry; some of that can be done through e-Devlet.

Apostilles: the office is in another city, and four rules hit a Turkish reader

Türkiye and the United States are both parties to the Hague Apostille Convention, so a document issued here needs **an apostille rather than consular legalization** to be used in Türkiye. On the Hague Conference's list of competent authorities, the authority shown for Indiana is the **Indiana Secretary of State**, and the state's only

authentication office is at **302 W. Washington Street, Room E-018** in the state capital. It has no branch, works **by appointment only**, charges **\$2 per certificate issued** which is non-refundable, and the normal turnaround is **one to two business days**. Someone with an appointment can have **up to ten documents** processed while they wait, someone without **five**. By mail, documents arriving before noon are returned the next business day and those arriving in the afternoon within two business days, and **a self-addressed stamped return envelope is required**. On the telephone side **two official sources give two different numbers** and we could not work out which is current; we take no side, so if one does not answer, try the other.

A source warning, because this touches your money and your calendar directly: we could not read any of those lines from the office's own live pages. The state's server never opened from this machine this round and the information came from **archive captures taken between 2023 and 2025**. **Confirm the fee, the turnaround and the appointment requirement by telephone before you travel**. The office's own capitalized warning belongs here too: **certificates issued by this office cannot be used inside the United States**. If an Indiana institution or a university office asks you for an apostilled document, what it wants is probably not an apostille; do not pay before you ask.

FOUR RULES THAT HIT A TURKISH READER DIRECTLY

- **The office does not translate, and the translation has to be notarized.** Its own answer: we do not translate documents, you have them translated and **have the translation notarized**, and then the work can be done. **That is the most important line in this section for a Turkish reader**, and here there is a cheap solution: the student legal service on campus runs **a free notary hour on Friday mornings**. The order is: obtain the document, translate it if needed, notarize the translation, then take it for the apostille.
- **A marriage certificate is a two-stop job, and here the two stops are in two different cities.** A marriage certificate must first be **authenticated by the clerk of the county where the marriage was performed**; only then does it go to the state authority. If your marriage took place in this county the first stop is the **Tippecanoe County Clerk**, which is across the river, and the second is in the state capital. **If you married in another Indiana county, the first stop is that county.**
- **Only Indiana documents are authenticated.** A birth certificate issued by another state, or a diploma you earned in another state, goes to that state's own authority. **That is a common mistake for a scholar who took a degree elsewhere:** this office will not authenticate that document.
- **Federal documents go through a different door.** A certificate of naturalization, a US passport and a federal criminal record go not to the state but to **the authentications office of the US Department of State**. A document issued by a federal court is authenticated by the clerk of that court.
- **Diplomas and transcripts are exactly this town's question, and the answer is contradictory.** One of the office's pages lists the fee-exempt documents as **birth and death certificates, adoption documents, student transcripts and diplomas**; the same office's question-and-answer page says **Indiana-issued birth and death certificates, Indiana school records**, adoption documents and documents issued by the authority itself. **The two lists do not match**, so whether your diploma or transcript is exempt is an open question. Ask by telephone before the appointment, and in the same call ask whether the copy your school gave you carries a signature and seal suitable for authentication.

- **The postal route is a real option from here, but it carries a warning:** by the office's own notice, **postal service deliveries are not made directly to this office** and that can cause delays; for a time-sensitive document the office recommends a private courier. **Do not choose ordinary mail for a document that has to reach a consular appointment.**
- **The form of the certificate changed in 2022:** since **July 1, 2022** the office uses the Hague Conference's single model apostille and **no longer separates apostille requests from authentication requests.** The certificate is on standard-size paper, in **three languages** (English, French and Spanish), attached in front of the page bearing the signature and seal **with two staples**, and it carries **a number of its own** for verification. **The gold foil seal is gone;** do not look at an old document and go hunting for one.
- **Notarization is needed on most documents,** but by the office's own account **it is not needed on marriage, divorce and birth certificates.** On a notarized document the certificate must be complete: the notary's signature, seal, commission, the date and the name of the signer.
- **Do not break the order.** You obtain the document first, have it translated and notarized if needed, and **the apostille comes last.** Nothing can be changed on a document once it has been apostilled.

The first link in the chain: the document itself

In Indiana a birth certificate has **two separate routes** and which one you need matters for an apostille. **The county route is faster:** the state's own question-and-answer page says that ordering through the county where you were born gets the document to you sooner. **But the long form comes only from the state,** and **an apostille requires the state copy,** so the quick county copy may not serve for that job. There are two pieces of good news for a Turkish reader: **a foreign passport is on the primary identification list and is sufficient on its own,** and the statute says the local health officer **must issue a certificate of the applicant's own birth registration. No Social Security number is required;** the Social Security card sits on the secondary list as one of two documents and is never asked for on its own. **A student identification card is also on the secondary list** and that helps in this town, but not on its own: two secondary documents are needed and the card must be accompanied by a current enrollment document.

NOT THE NUMBER: THESE ARE THE REAL OBSTACLES

- **There is a conflict between statute and practice and we print it.** The statute says a local health officer may issue a certificate **regardless of where the record is kept**. But the statute says **may**, not **must**, and in this state some county health departments write that they issue certificates only for births that happened in their own county. **We take no side:** call your own county health department before you travel. **We could not read this county's own identification policy**, so we do not print the county counter's list.
- **Direct interest.** The people who may request the certificate are listed and each must **document** the relationship.
- **The order cannot be completed without the parents' names:** the name at birth, the date of birth, the place of birth, **the mother's full maiden name and the father's full name** are asked for. For a reader from Türkiye that is something to ask the older generation in advance.
- **The search fee is non-refundable.** If no record is found you receive a certificate of no record and your money does not come back. **We print no vital records fee**, because we could not verify one.
- **The certificate is mailed only to the address on your identification. For someone who moves between terms in this town that is the commonest thing to go wrong:** if you live on campus or in a term-length rental, settle this before you apply.
- **Two more rights that are not widely known:** a local health officer's refusal to issue a certified copy is **subject to judicial review**, and on request the officer must issue a death certificate **that does not show the cause of death**. **We could not find** the delayed registration procedure.

The marriage license: you do not choose the county, and the counter is across the river

The statute says the license comes from the clerk of the circuit court of **the county where one of you resides**; if you live here that means the **Tippecanoe County Clerk**, and **the counter is across the river on the second floor of the county courthouse**. **Both of you must appear together, in person**; starting the application through the state judiciary's system in advance does not remove that requirement. Hours are weekdays **8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, plus **the first Tuesday of each month until 6:30 p.m.**, and issuing stops **thirty minutes before closing**, so do not rely on the last half hour. There is security screening at the courthouse and the clerk directs entry through the Columbia Street side. The license is valid **sixty days**, there is **no waiting period**, the marriage may be solemnized the same day, and it is **valid only inside Indiana**.

SOURCE	INDIANA RESIDENT	OUT OF STATE
The statute	\$25	\$65
The state judiciary's own page	\$25	\$65, adding that some offices also charge a \$4 document fee
This county clerk's own page	\$29	\$69

- **We print the contradiction and we take no side:** the statute and the state judiciary say \$25 and \$65, this county charges **four dollars more at both tiers** and does not say why on its own page. The gap matches

the four-dollar document fee the judiciary mentions, **but no source says that about this county and we are not inventing an explanation.** Call the clerk and confirm the current amount before you go.

- **On payment this county is the lucky one:** cash or a debit or credit card is accepted (a service fee applies on cards) and **personal checks are not.** Most clerks in this state take cash only; this is the one of the five we could verify as taking cards.
- **Residence here is a fee tier, not a bar.** The lower tier applies where at least one party resides in this county, and the higher tier where neither is an Indiana resident but the marriage will take place here. **But do not assume that, living in another Indiana county, you can take the out-of-state tier here;** the statute sends you to your own county, and another county in this state states flatly that it turns such applicants away.
- **A passport is on the list for proof of date of birth,** which is the key item for a Turkish reader; the list also names a driver's license, a government identification, a certified copy of a state-issued birth certificate, and military identification or discharge papers.
- **If your identification does not show your current address,** the clerk names a copy of a lease, a utility bill, a bank statement, or another official document showing the current residence address. **That is the most openly written sentence for a newcomer among the five settlements** and it keeps the door open for someone who has just moved.
- **Genealogical information is asked for:** both parties' parents' full names (including a mother's maiden name), last known address and birthplace. **The record is public:** the statute says the clerk records the application, the license and the certificate in a book and that the book is a public record.
- **A religious ceremony alone is not a legal marriage.** The legal marriage is completed by the license and the return of the certificate to the clerk. One county clerk in this state, listing who may solemnize, **names an imam explicitly. Each certified copy of the marriage certificate carries its own fee** and it is that document you need for a name change; take several copies.

THE NUMBER QUESTION AND TRANSLATION: BOTH ARE SETTLED AT THIS COUNTER

- **The state judiciary's own page says, in these words:** you will also be required to provide your Social Security number, although your Social Security card may not be required. The source of the requirement is clear: the statute requires the **record of marriage form** developed by the state health department to include each applicant's number; the numbers are kept confidential and used only for the federal child support program.
- **This county's own page never mentions a number, but that is a silence, not an exemption.** And here is what we did not find: no statute, no state rule, not the judiciary's page and no county clerk says what a person **who has never been issued a Social Security number** should do. A third-party guide claims an affidavit may be signed in one county in this state; **we could not verify that and we do not write it as the procedure. We are not inventing an answer:** call the county clerk before you go and write down the answer.
- **The most critical sentence for a Turkish reader is translation.** Right after listing the accepted documents, the state judiciary's page writes: if this documentation is in any language other than English, it may be necessary to have it **translated and notarized** before submitting it to the clerk. So do not take your Turkish birth record straight to the counter: **sworn translation first, then the notary, then the appointment.**
- **The same order applies to apostille work,** and planning the two together saves you a trip. Solve the notary step with **the free Friday hour on campus** and you save both money and a day.

The time difference and the Istanbul flight

PERIOD	TIME ZONE	DIFFERENCE FROM TÜRKİYE
October 9 to October 31, 2026	Eastern Daylight Time	Türkiye is 7 hours ahead
After November 1, 2026	Eastern Standard Time	Türkiye is 8 hours ahead

- Türkiye stays on the same clock all year and does not observe daylight saving time, so the gap shifts twice a year **on the US side. Put November 1, 2026 in your calendar**, because it is very easy to lose an hour when you work out a connection time while buying a ticket.
- **The practical window:** 9:00 a.m. here is currently 4:00 p.m. in Türkiye, and 5:00 p.m. after November. The easiest time to talk 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 9 to 5, the window for calling from here opens around midnight, which is why the call center and e-Devlet also solve the time difference.
- **For a researcher talking to a supervisor in Türkiye:** morning classes here fall in the late afternoon there, so the most workable slot for a joint online meeting is between nine and noon here.
- **The split inside the state:** by the state information center's own answer, most of Indiana is on Eastern time while **12 counties** in the northwest and southwest are on Central. This county is on Eastern; when you call a relative or an institution in the northwest, allow for them being **an hour behind**. **We print no section number**, because the citation on the state's own page is written unusually and we could not verify the statutory text.
- **Do not trust lists circulating online.** Some third-party pages speak of 18 Central counties or show a city in the middle of the state on Central time; those conflict with the state's own list.
- **The honest answer on flights:** the nearest scheduled airport is **Indianapolis International Airport** in the state capital and **there is no direct flight from there to Istanbul**. Türkiye does not appear on the airport's 2026 nonstop list; **the single nonstop to Europe is Dublin**, reported to have gone to five flights a week from April 2026.
- **The Dublin connection has one advantage:** it is one of the two European airports with US preclearance, so on the way back US entry formalities are done in Dublin and you come out here like a domestic passenger.
- **The direct flight leaves from Chicago:** the Turkish flag carrier's own site gives **two direct flights a day** between **Chicago O'Hare** and Istanbul with a flight time of about **10 hours 40 minutes**.
- **There are two realistic routings from here:** one connection out of the state capital's airport, or a road leg to Chicago and the direct flight from there. **And one advantage combines:** Chicago is both where the direct flight leaves from and where the Consulate General is, so pairing a consular appointment with a flight to Türkiye makes sense from here; take the appointment the day before the flight. **We print no distance or driving time figures**.
- **A name trap:** the university has an airfield of its own, **but no scheduled passenger service was found**. Do not look for a ticket there.
- **On the train:** the interstate passenger service crosses the county but runs **three days a week**, and the nearest station is across the river. **We could not verify the station's exact name and address** and **we print no train day or time**, because the sources conflict and the only official schedule we could find is years old. Intercity coach stops could not be verified either.
- **The identity document you use on an international flight is a passport.**

DO NOT CONFUSE THIS WITH YOUR US IMMIGRATION CASE

The consulate handles matters relating to Türkiye. Your US visa, green card or naturalization applications are the business of federal agencies. Before traveling to Türkiye with a pending green card application, check your advance parole position. If you naturalize, remember to notify the Turkish registry of your US 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 documents are apostilled in Türkiye and submitted here with a certified English translation.



TURKISH-SPEAKING IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY IN WEST LAFAYETTE

Have a question about your immigration status?

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