

What is the difference between an apostille and an authentication?

Not much really.

Apostille and authentications are issued from the same federal or state secretary of state offices and both apostille and authentication certificates are printed out on 8 1/2 x 11 sheets of paper and then attached to your documents with a staple (Texas Secretary of State) and with a grommet (United States Department of State).

The difference is that an **apostille certificate** is issued when a document is presented (filed and sent) to a country that is a **member** of the Hague Convention Treaty.

An **authentication certificate** is issued when a document is presented (filed and sent) to a country that is **not a member** of the Hague Convention Treaty.

For example, all documents being presented and sent to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) would receive state and federal authentication certificates, and for Mexico, you would receive state or federal apostille certificates.