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## Authentication of Academic Qualifications using Apostille

### ***What is the difference between Apostille and Notarization***

An **Apostille** is a form of authentication issued for documents that will be used in countries that participate in the Hague Convention of 1961, including the Kingdom of Bahrain. **Notarized** documents (signed before a notary public) are often enough to prove a document's legitimacy for use in the same country where the documents are notarized.

**Before you start** make sure that your name in your Academic documents (Transcripts and Certificates) is exactly the same as that in your valid Passport. You must retain the same nationality and passport name for the duration of the programme in RCSI-Bahrain.

### ***What is Authentication of Documents and why is it needed?***

Academic qualifications intended for use in another country must be "authenticated" or "legalized" in order to be recognized as valid in the that country. The Higher Education Council (HEC) Bahrain requires all students commencing studies in Bahrain to obtain authentication of their High School/Secondary Transcript, Diploma and Degrees.

### **You are required to submit the following**

<b>For those who have completed their qualification in countries that participate in Hague Convention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Original – Transcript and Completion Certificate (Diploma/Degree/Certificate)</li><li>• Authenticate the above documents using <b>Apostille</b></li></ul>
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**NOTE:** We can have the attestation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bahrain done on your behalf however there is a cost associated with this. Please contact [attestbahrain@rcsi-mub.com](mailto:attestbahrain@rcsi-mub.com) if you wish to avail this.

### ***How to get an Apostille and where to find appropriate authorities***

This link provides information regarding appropriate authorities in each country and other information needed regarding Apostille - <https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/specialised-sections/apostille>



**Please note that these guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of external authorities such as the Higher Education Council (HEC) Bahrain, Foreign Affairs office, etc.**