



Access to Justice  
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## **Documents That Cannot Be Apostilled**

### **1. Documents from Outside Canada**

Documents issued by non-Canadian foreign countries (even if used in Canada), must be apostilled or legalized in the country of origin ONLY.

### **2. Copies or Unofficial Documents**

- Photocopies that are not notarized;
- Drafts or unsigned contracts;
- Non-certified translations;
- Religious documents;

### **3. Certain Digital Documents**

Unless digitally certified and accepted by the issuing authority for apostille, some .PDF or online-only records may not be eligible for Apostille.

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Each province in Canada designates its own competent authority for issuing apostilles. For example:

- Ontario: **Official Documents Services (ODS);**
- British Columbia: **Ministry of Attorney General;**
- Alberta: **Official Documents and Appointments;**
- Quebec: **Ministry of Justice;**
- Saskatchewan: **Ministry of Justice and Attorney General;**
- Other provinces & federal: **Global Affairs Canada (JLAC);**

*\*\* documents must be issued and notarized in the same province or jurisdiction where you are requesting the apostille.\*\**