ITEM 139-105-R0508	Exception to Policy 301.12, Undergraduate Degree Requirements, CAS in Health Information Coding, MSU-Great Falls College of Technology
THAT:	The Board of Regents of Higher Education for the State of Montana approves an exception to Policy 301.12, Undergraduate Degree Requirements: Associate Degrees and Certificates of Applied Science, for the Certificate of Applied Science in Health Information Coding at Montana State University- Great Falls College of Technology.
EXPLANATION:	Policy 301.12 establishes guidelines and characteristics for two-year degree programs. The Policy also establishes an exception procedure for programs that do not comply with those guidelines. That procedure has been followed with this exception request.
	 The above-referenced program in Health Information Coding exceeds the credit limit of 45 credits established in Policy 301.12. Rationale for the exception request are: the accreditation expectations established by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). The Great Falls program is the only accredited Health Information Coding program in the Montana University System. the accreditation expectations of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.
	The Two-Year Education Council, at a meeting on April 14, 2008, approved a recommendation to grant this exception. That recommendation is now before the Montana Board of Regents for approval, as required by Policy 301.12.