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### UM Law School unconditionally accredited

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# University of Montana

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### UM LAW SCHOOL UNCONDITIONALLY ACCREDITED

MISSOULA--

The University of Montana School of Law received word last week that its accreditation has been fully and unconditionally renewed by the American Bar Association. The reaccreditation remains in effect for seven years, the maximum possible time period.

"This action was the result of a normal seven-year review," said Law School Dean John O. Mudd. He added that while the school's accreditation was never in jeopardy the accreditation report left the school in its best position in many years.

"In past years the association has expressed concern about items like the amount of library space, faculty salaries and support for faculty development," said Mudd. "We not only corrected these problems for this review, we received special commendation for our ongoing process of curriculum review and revision."

In 1980 the law school received a \$240,000 grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE) to study the educational needs of the legal profession in Montana. Now nearing its midpoint, the seven-to-10-year project is resulting in innovative curriculum changes based on the advice and suggestions of more than 600 lawyers and judges throughout the state.

"As Montana's only law school, we have a unique responsibility to the state," said Mudd. "It's very gratifying to be told by objective reviewers that we are doing a good job."

The law school is the second of the University of Montana's professional schools to receive an unconditional reaccreditation this spring. Earlier in the

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month, the School of Business Administration was accredited at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Nationwide only six percent of the colleges and universities with business programs have comparable accreditation.

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