Donated duds give grads professional edge

Items to be worn at interviews accepted until Wednesday

By HOWARD BUCK

A new graduate's budget might be threadbare. There's no reason his or her interview outfit must follow suit.

That's why the Clark College Career Clothing Closet is again taking donated business attire for students who could use the boost. It's the fifth edition of the volunteer program.

Clothing for men and women is welcome through Wednesday afternoon. That includes coats, shirts, slacks, skirts and accessories such as shoes and purses.

Clark students will pick out items on Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Pengui Student Lounge.

Last year's giveaway helped 170 students feel and look more confident as they tried to land a job or scholarship offers.

The goal this year is at least as many, said Jody Shulnack, Clark service-learning and volunteer program manager.

Clothing will be accepted through 2 p.m. Wednesday in Room 173 of Clark's "T" building. That's on the west side of Fort Vancouver Way, opposite Gaiser Hall and the Penguin Union Building, at 1533 Fort Vancouver Way.

Drop-off times are 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. today and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday.

Donors should consider clothing they personally would feel comfortable wearing to an interview.

All clothing should be in excellent condition and ready for use, that means laundered or dry-cleaned, and ironed.

If the size of the garment is not clear, donors should label the item. A small paper slip attached by safety pin will do.

Hangars also are appreciated — especially those with clips for slacks and skirts.

For questions, donors may call Shulnack at 360-992-2447.