



WHAT IS PIN?

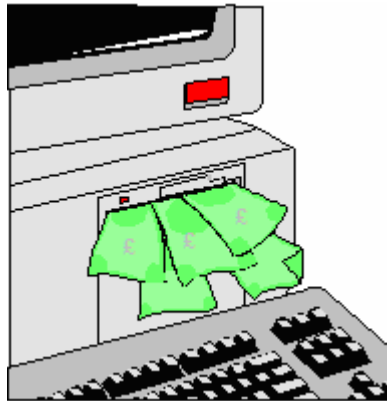
a funding information leaflet from *funderfinder*

FunderFinder People in Need (PIN) is a computer software package that provides a quick and easy way of finding out which charitable trusts might help individuals. It covers individuals who are in need and individuals who are looking for money for education and training.

What information do you have to put in to the computer?

The user enters information about themselves (or whoever needs money) to create a search profile. The computer program will need to be told:

- the age, gender and marital status of the person
- where the person currently lives
- what the person wants money for e.g. rent, medical equipment, help with debts
- students need to enter the level of education e.g. further/higher, and what the money is needed for e.g. fees
- students and people looking for help with career development should also input the subject they want to study or say that the money isn't related to a particular subject or profession or field (if, for instance, it's money for a gap year or a school trip or starting a business).



The following information can also be added:

- other relationships people have to places, such as where they were born
- current or former jobs
- membership of a religious group
- frailty, health or disability problems
- whether they have served in the armed services
- membership of certain clubs or groups
- nationality
- other characteristics e.g. housebound, single parent, expectant mother.

All the information that is input is related to criteria specified by grant making trusts.

What happens when you've entered all the information?

The search profile is matched against data about charitable trusts coded into PIN. Funders that don't fit are excluded and results are displayed in alphabetical order. The resulting list contains two sets of charities – 'ordinary' charities and those in red where some restrictions apply. The user can then scan policy information to decide which trusts look promising.

What can I do with the results?

The results of a search can be selected for printing, saving, saving for mail merge or they can be emailed to someone.

The information you will get is:

- the name of the charitable trust
- its Charity Commission reference number if it is a registered charity
- information about its policy and how applications should be made
- the address, telephone number, email address and website, if any
- a source of further information such as a directory reference.

Armed with the printout you should remember that most funders get many more requests for support than they are able to help. The quality of your application is what counts. So be prepared to spend time getting your application right.

How long does a FunderFinder search take?

It depends on how complicated your search is and whether you want to try different options. If you're new to FunderFinder you should probably allow half an hour.

Leaflet supplied by