# **CANSTAR FIXED RATE HOME LOAN AWARD METHODOLOGY DOCUMENT**



# WHAT IS THE CANSTAR FIXED RATE HOME LOAN AWARD?

The CANSTAR *Home Loan Star Ratings* uses a sophisticated and unique methodology comparing the Cost and Features of a home loan to determine the products representing outstanding value. In conjunction with the Home Loans Star Rating, CANSTAR awards *Fixed Rate Home Loan Award* to institutions that provide the strongest combination of products across the Home Loan Star Ratings.

CANSTAR's *Fixed Rate Home Loan Award* uses the strength and robustness of the Home Loans Star Ratings to determine institutions that provide the strongest combination of products across three different consumer profiles (Established Home Owner, First Home Buyer and Investor) and four fixed rate terms (1, 2, 3 and 5 year fixed).

The following lender groups are considered, with the top ranking lender receiving the CANSTAR Fixed Rate Home Loan Award for that segment:

- Banks (Bank of the Year Fixed Rate Home Loan)
- Customer Owned Institution which includes mutual banks, credit unions and building societies (Customer Owned Institution of the Year Fixed Rate Home Loan)
- Non Banks (Non-Bank of the Year Fixed Rate Home Loan)

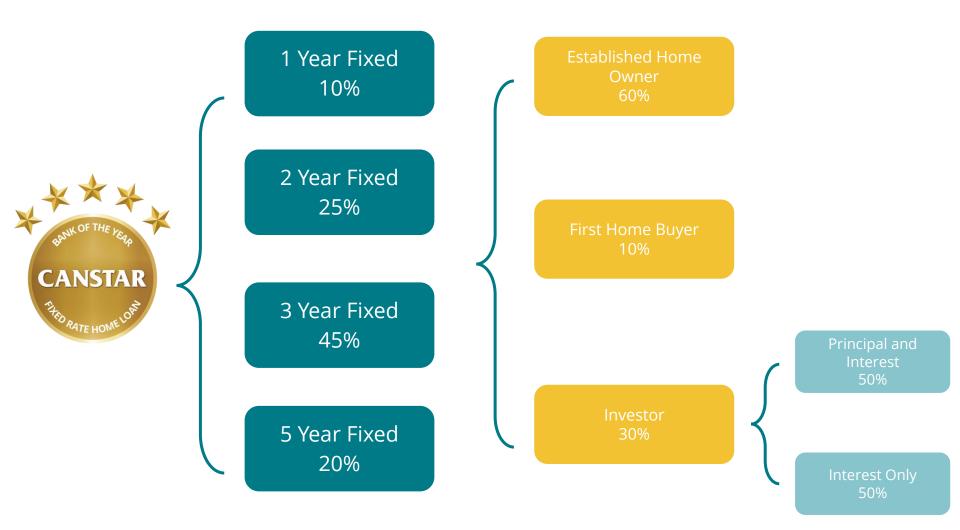
For an Insitution to be eligible for a Fixed Rate Award it must offer the following:

- Fixed Rate Home Loans
- Loans must be available for 80% LVR or greater
- Loans must be available to new customers for new loans

Please refer to the Home Loans Star rating methodology for more information about how the scores are assigned: <u>www.canstar.com.au/home-loans/</u>

CANSTAL

# **METHODOLOGY**



#### **HOW OFTEN IS THE CANSTAR FIXED RATE HOME LOANS AWARD CALCULATED?**

All ratings are fully recalculated every twelve months based on the latest features offered by each institution. CANSTAR also monitors rate changes on an ongoing basis.

# **DOES CANSTAR RATE OTHER PRODUCT AREAS?**

CANSTAR researches, compares and rates the suite of banking and insurance products listed below. These star ratings use similar methodologies to guarantee quality, consistency and transparency. Results are freely available to consumers who use the star ratings as a guide to product excellence. The use of similar star ratings logos also builds consumer recognition of quality products across all categories. Please access the CANSTAR website at <u>www.canstar.com.au</u> if you would like to view the latest star ratings reports of interest.

- Account based pensions
- Business life insurance
- Deposit accounts
- Health insurance
- Landlord insurance
- Margin lending
- Package banking
- Reward programs
- Travel insurance

- Agribusiness
- Car insurance
- Direct life insurance
- Home & contents
- Life insurance
- Online banking
- Personal loans
- Superannuation
- Travel money cards

- Business banking
- Credit cards
- First home buyer
- Home loans
- Managed investments
- Online share trading
- Pet insurance
- Term deposits
- Youth banking



### **COMPLIANCE DISCLOSURE AND LIABILITY DISCLAIMER**

To the extent that the information in this report constitutes general advice, this advice has been prepared by Canstar Research Pty Ltd A.C.N. 114 422 909 AFSL and ACL 437917 ("Canstar"). The information has been prepared without taking into account your individual investment objectives, financial circumstances or needs. Before you decide whether or not to acquire a particular financial product you should assess whether it is appropriate for you in the light of your own personal circumstances, having regard to your own objectives, financial situation and needs. You may wish to obtain financial advice from a suitably qualified adviser before making any decision to acquire a financial product. Canstar provides information about credit products. It is not a credit provider and in giving you information it is not making any suggestion or recommendation to you about a particular credit product. Please refer to Canstar's FSG for more information.

The information in this report must not be copied or otherwise reproduced, repackaged, further transmitted, transferred, disseminated, redistributed or resold, or stored for subsequent use for any purpose, in whole or in part, in any form or manner or by means whatsoever, by any person without CANSTAR's prior written consent. All information obtained by Canstar from external sources is believed to be accurate and reliable. Under no circumstances shall Canstar have any liability to any person or entity due to error (negligence or otherwise) or other circumstances or contingency within or outside the control of Canstar or any of its directors, officers, employees or agents in connection with the procurement, collection, compilation, analysis, interpretation, communication, publication, or delivery of any such information. Copyright 2014 CANSTAR Research Pty Ltd A.C.N. 114 422 909

The word "CANSTAR", the gold star in a circle logo (with or without surmounting stars), are trademarks or registered trademarks of CANSTAR Pty Ltd. Reference to third party products, services or other information by trade name, trademark or otherwise does not constitute or imply endorsement, sponsorship or recommendation of CANSTAR by the respective trademark owner.

