

# Mortgage and Finance Help

Giving you the information to help you make the right loan choice

When looking for a loan, you need the guidance of a professional you can trust. You need a member of the Mortgage and Finance Association of Australia.

MFAA members have life-changing conversations with their clients every day. As the peak national industry body, the MFAA ensures that its credit adviser members have a higher level of education, experience and ethics than your average mortgage or finance broker.

#### **Professional and Ethical**

Our members must meet and maintain strict accreditation criteria on education, experience and ethics, so when you work with an MFAA member you can be confident you're working with someone who is required to have the knowledge and integrity to help you source an appropriate loan. That's why you should only borrow with a member of the MFAA.

## **Experienced and Educated**

To become a member of the MFAA, an individual must have worked in the industry for at least two years - or meet the MFAA's mentoring requirements and its minimum standard of education. This ensures MFAA members have the experience to help you with the major financial decisions of your life.

### Participating in ongoing training

MFAA members must satisfy strict educational standards, and undertake ongoing professional training to keep up with the latest developments. This requires MFAA members to have the knowledge to guide you to a loan that matches your needs and circumstances.

## **Bound by a Code of Practice**

MFAA members must adhere to a Code of Practice that demands high standards, fair practices, ethical behaviour and compliance with the letter and spirit of relevant laws and regulations. MFAA members are duty bound to demonstrate professionalism and integrity.

#### **Did You Know?**

Almost 50% of people arrange their home loans through a mortgage broker. In 2013 mortgage brokers were responsible for over \$123 billion in loans.



## Why use a credit adviser?

You should only borrow using a professional you can trust. So ask the essential question: "Are you a member of the MFAA?". Or, if you prefer, you can check their credentials online at: www.mortgageandfinancehelp.com.au

MFAA member criteria:

- industry experience;
- highest education standards in the industry;
- ongoing education;
- professional development;
- probity checks;
- professional indemnity insurance; and
- dispute resolution service.

#### **Did You Know?**

83.6% of people think it's important to find out if a mortgage or finance broker is a member of an industry body before engaging them.

#### Why do people use a mortgage and finance credit adviser?

- 1. A mortgage or finance credit adviser can save you time: the choices now available in the market can seem limitless and overwhelming. Work with a professional who already has the knowledge.
- 2. A mortgage or finance credit adviser can give you choice: most brokers have a panel of lenders from whom to source loans.
- 3. A mortgage or finance credit adviser can help you avoid pitfalls: many products seem to offer a good deal, but may include penalties, fees and charges that aren't obvious. A broker can help you avoid taking out a loan you might later regret.

# Before you see someone

The more you know, the easier it is for your MFAA member to guide you to the appropriate product. Learn all about the basics of home loans and business finance at the MFAA's "Mortgage and Finance Help" website.

#### Get answers to questions like:

- How much should I borrow?
- What's a simple way to increase my borrowing capacity?
- Should I have a fixed rate, variable rate or split rate?
- How do I pay off my mortgage sooner?
- What do I need to know about debt consolidation?
- How can I improve the cash flow of my business?