



Methodology for the U.S. Morningstar Awards for Investing Excellence 2019

The Morningstar Awards for Investing Excellence recognize portfolio managers, asset-management firms, and up-and-coming managers that demonstrate excellent investment skill, the courage to differ from the consensus to benefit investors, and an alignment of interests with the strategies' investors. The Morningstar Awards for Investing Excellence award winners are chosen based on research and in-depth qualitative evaluation by Morningstar's manager research group.

Below find the methodology for each award.

► Outstanding Portfolio Manager Award

Each year, Morningstar recognizes an Outstanding Portfolio Manager, an individual who has produced exceptional returns over the long term. Morningstar's manager research analysts conduct in-depth qualitative analyses in order to select nominees and, subsequently, vote to determine the award winner. To qualify for the award, the manager's strategy must currently earn a Morningstar® Analyst Rating™ of: Gold, which is a best-of-breed managed portfolio that distinguishes itself across the pillars—such as people, process, parent, performance, and price—and has garnered the analysts' highest level of conviction; or Silver, which is an offering with advantages that outweigh the disadvantages across the pillars and with sufficient level of analyst conviction to warrant a positive rating.

► Exemplary Stewardship Award

Morningstar presents the Exemplary Stewardship Award to an asset manager that has shown an unwavering focus on serving the best interests of investors. Morningstar's manager research analysts conduct in-depth qualitative analyses in order to select nominees and, subsequently, vote to determine the award winner. To qualify for the award, the firm must have received a Parent pillar rating of "positive." The Parent pillar rating measures the quality of the firm's care of investors' capital. The firms must demonstrate an investor-focused corporate culture and an alignment of interests between investors and the people who control the destiny of the investment strategies.

► Rising Talent Award

Morningstar presents the Rising Talent Award to an up-and-coming manager in Morningstar's coverage universe. The manager must have less than seven years' tenure managing portfolios and have delivered exceptional results to investors over that span of time. Morningstar's manager research analysts conduct in-depth qualitative analyses in order to select nominees and, subsequently, vote to determine the award winner. To qualify for the award, the manager's strategy must earn a Morningstar Analyst Rating of Gold, Silver or Bronze, or have been featured in Morningstar Prospects, a publication highlighting investments that Morningstar analysts are following closely but have not yet received a Morningstar Analyst Rating. Strategies receiving Analyst Ratings of Gold, Silver, or Bronze have notable advantages across several, but perhaps not all, of the pillars—strengths that give the analysts a high level of conviction.