

Biography

Janet Cowell is the State Treasurer of North Carolina.

Elected in 2008, she is the state's 27th popularly-elected Treasurer and is the first woman to win the post.

As the state's fiscal advisor, Treasurer Cowell oversees nearly \$70 billion in pension fund investments, affecting more than 850,000 public employees including teachers, firefighters and other government employees.

Cowell also oversees the operations of the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees, which provides health care coverage to more than 664,000 teachers, state employees and retirees.

Cowell and her staff manage the issuance of several billion dollars of debt each year and help cities, towns and counties by monitoring their financial condition while providing professional technical assistance on audit and financial reporting. Her expertise in government operations comes from hands-on experience as a member of the North Carolina Senate and the Raleigh City Council.

Cowell is at the forefront of economic development in North Carolina, serving as chair of the State Banking Commission and on the boards of State Education and Community Colleges.

An investment professional, Cowell earned an MBA from the Wharton School of Business and a Master's degree in International Studies from the Lauder Institute. She worked as a financial analyst with HSBC Bank and Lehman Brothers before making her home in North Carolina.