



2026 Woman of Distinction

Public Service



The Honorable Rachael Heisler

City Controller
City of Pittsburgh

Rachael Heisler was sworn in as controller for the City of Pittsburgh in January 2024. From 2021 through 2023, she served as deputy controller under then-controller Michael Lamb. An expert in sustainable public finance, Rachael spent seven years as a senior advisor at the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, the country's leading federal fiscal watchdog group, running the organization's external affairs efforts. She served on the staff of Congressman Jason Altmire for six years, and she worked on the inaugural campaign of U.S. Senator Bob Casey.

Rachael is on the board of the Mattress Factory Museum, Cafe Momentum PGH, and Pittsburgh's Jewish Family and Community Services, where she serves as the organization's treasurer. She is the past board chair of the Allegheny YMCA and the Northside Food Pantry Advisors. Growing up in central Pennsylvania, she was a member of the Girl Scouts organization as both a Daisy and Brownie for four years.

She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree from the Pennsylvania State University.