



**Paula Henderson**  
**Senior Vice President,**  
**US Commercial and Public Sector**

Paula is the Senior Vice President, US Commercial and Public Sector at SAS, the world's largest privately held software company headquartered in North Carolina. In this role, she partners with industry leaders to create transformational digital solutions designed to optimize the performance of corporations, communities, and Federal government agencies. In 2019, she launched a new AgTech division within SAS, with a mission to help create a healthier world by developing new analytical solutions for the broader agriculture industry.

Since joining the company in 2002, Paula served in a number of key leadership roles at SAS, most recently as Vice President of the US Government Practice. As part of that role, Paula worked closely with policy makers to apply the power of SAS analytics to improve the efficiency of federal and state programs focused on issues such as opioid abuse, public safety, budget transparency, and fraud, waste and abuse. Prior to that, she led the State and Local Government practice, where she and her team delivered solutions that improve services, lower costs and ultimately save lives.

Prior to joining SAS, Paula was a sales leader at Nortel Networks, creating strategies designed to drive year-over-year revenue growth in the U.S. and Canada. Her efforts led to a 150 percent increase in account portfolio growth and earned her the Award of Merit each year at the company.

Paula holds a Master of Business Administration from Meredith College and a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from North Carolina State University. She currently serves on the executive committee of the North Carolina Chamber and is the founding member of the North Carolina Women in Science and Technology board. Paula also serves on the boards of Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina and the NC State University College of Science. She is passionate about improving government programs aimed at assisting families and serves as a mentor for at-risk women at the Methodist Home for Children.