

Jennifer Harthan, OD, FAAO, FSLs

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Jennifer S. Harthan, OD is a graduate of the Illinois College of Optometry (ICO). After completing a residency in Cornea and Contact Lenses at ICO, she became a full-time faculty member. Dr. Harthan is a Professor at ICO and Chief of the Cornea and Contact Lens Center for Clinical Excellence at the Illinois Eye Institute. Dr. Harthan is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), a Diplomate of the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies, a Fellow of the Scleral Lens Education Society, a Fellow of the National Academies of Practice. She also serves on the advisory boards for many companies including the International Keratoconus Academy and Epion Therapeutics. Dr. Harthan is the Executive Director of the GP Lens Institute as of January 2025. Dr. Harthan is a founding member of the SCOPE (Scleral Lenses in Current Ophthalmic Practice Evaluation) research team. Dr. Harthan is the 2022 recipient of the Dr. Edward S. Bennett GPLI Educator of the Year Award, the 2022 AOCLE Dr. Lester E. Janoff Memorial Award, and the 2024 AOA Contact Lens and Cornea Section Achievement Award. Dr. Harthan is actively involved in ocular surface disease and contact lens research and lectures on these topics at national meetings. She has published over 70 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 200 peer-reviewed abstracts. Dr. Harthan has also co-authored 2 book chapters (Specialty Contact Lenses, Chapter 4; Clinical Manual of Contact Lenses, 5th edition, Chapter 13).