

Dr. Carrie Heller graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the Florida State University and a Doctorate of Optometry from the Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry. In 2004 she completed a residency in primary care optometry at the Tuscaloosa Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC). Dr. Heller worked in private practice for six years before returning to the Veterans Health Administration in 2010. She is currently a staff optometrist at the Malcom Randall VAMC where she is the Contact Lens Program Coordinator, Assistant Residency Program Coordinator, and serves on local and national VA committees. Additionally, she is a course reviewer for the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) and is currently faculty at five optometric colleges.

Dr. Heller is a past president of the Northwest Florida Optometric Society, a current fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), an executive council member and the membership committee chair of the Armed Forces Optometric Society (AFOS), and a member of the American Optometric Association (AOA). She is Board Certified in Medical Optometry by the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry (ABCMO). Dr. Heller attends national and international humanitarian missions on an annual basis and recently earned a graduate certificate in Humanitarian Assistance from the University of South Florida College of Public Health.

Dr. Heller was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force Reserve in 2009. She was the first optometrist assigned to stand up the 476 AMDF at Moody AFB; she developed the Corneal Refractive Surgery and Aircrew Contact Lens Programs for the newly activated unit. She currently serves as the officer in charge (OIC) of the optometry service in the 920 ASTS at Patrick AFB.