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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 8, 2019**

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**Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**001-38276**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**27-1537290**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**6400 Westwind Way, Suite A**  
**Crestwood, KY**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**40014**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (502) 241-4114**

**Not applicable**  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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#### **Item 4.01 Changes in Registrant’s Certifying Accountant**

On April 8, 2019, the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the “Company”) selected Deloitte & Touche LLP (“Deloitte”) as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019 and dismissed Ernst & Young LLP (“E&Y”) from service as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm. The Company formally engaged Deloitte on April 12, 2019.

E&Y’s reports on the Company’s financial statements as of and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 did not contain any adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor were they qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles. E&Y’s reports for each of the fiscal years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 included an explanatory paragraph indicating that there was substantial doubt about the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern.

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 and the subsequent interim period through April 8, 2019, there were (i) no “disagreements” (as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K and the related instructions) between the Company and E&Y on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of E&Y, would have caused E&Y to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreement in its reports on the Company’s consolidated financial statements and (ii) no “reportable events” (as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K and the related instructions).

The Company provided E&Y with a copy of this Current Report on Form 8-K and requested that E&Y furnish to the Company a letter addressed to the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) stating whether or not E&Y agrees with the above statements and, if not, stating the respects in which it does not agree. A copy of E&Y’s letter to the SEC, dated April 11, 2019, is attached as Exhibit 16.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 and the subsequent interim period through April 8, 2019, neither the Company, nor anyone on its behalf, consulted Deloitte regarding (i) the application of accounting principles to a specified transaction, either completed or proposed, or the type of audit opinion that might be rendered on the Company’s consolidated financial statements, and no written report or oral advice was provided to the Company by Deloitte that Deloitte concluded was an important factor considered by the Company in reaching a decision as to any accounting, auditing or financial reporting issue or (ii) any matter that was the subject of a “disagreement” (as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K and the related instructions) or a “reportable event” (as that term is defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K).

#### **Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
16.1	<a href="#"><u>Letter from Ernst &amp; Young LLP to the SEC, dated April 11, 2019, regarding the statements made in this Current Report on Form 8-K.</u></a>

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: April 12, 2019

**Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

By: /s/ Cedric Francois

Cedric Francois, M.D., Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer



Ernst & Young LLP  
Suite 2400  
400 West Market Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

Tel: +1 502 585 1400  
Fax: +1 502 584 4221  
ey.com

April 11, 2019

Securities and Exchange Commission  
100 F Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20549

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have read Item 4.01 of Form 8-K dated April 8, 2019, of Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and are in agreement with the statements contained in the second and third paragraphs on page 2 therein. We have no basis to agree or disagree with other statements of the registrant contained therein.

*Ernst & Young LLP*

A member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited