

## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## OMB APPROVAL

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## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

☐ Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Watson David O.</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O APELLIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC</u> <u>100 FIFTH AVENUE, 3RD FLOOR</u>  (Street) <u>WALTHAM MA 02451</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Apellis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. [ APLS ]</u>  3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/28/2021</u>  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)  <u>General Counsel</u>  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	01/28/2021		A <sup>(1)</sup>		7,500	A	\$0	94,387	D	
Common Stock	01/28/2021		A <sup>(2)</sup>		1,875	A	\$0	96,262	D	
Common Stock								10,000	I	See Footnote <sup>(3)</sup>

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$44.9	01/28/2021		A		45,000		(4)	01/27/2031	Common Stock	45,000	\$0	45,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$44.9	01/28/2021		A		11,250		(5)	01/27/2031	Common Stock	11,250	\$0	11,250	D	

## Explanation of Responses:

- This Restricted Stock Units grant will vest 25% annually over four years from grant date, subject to continued service.
- This Performance Unit grant will vest 25% annually over four years from grant date, subject to the satisfaction of a specified performance condition and continued service.
- The securities are held by The Watson Education Trust (the "Trust"), for which the reporting person serves as trustee. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership over the shares held by the Trust except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- This stock option will vest as to 25% of the shares underlying the options on the first anniversary of the grant, with the remaining 75% of the shares underlying the options vesting in equal monthly installments thereafter through the fourth anniversary of the grant, subject to continued service.
- This stock option will vest as to 25% of the shares underlying the options on the first anniversary of the grant, with the remaining 75% of the shares underlying the options vesting in equal monthly installments thereafter through the fourth anniversary of the grant, subject to the satisfaction of a specified performance condition and continued service.

/s/ David Watson

01/29/2021

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.