

bluebird bio, Inc.
Form S-8
June 24, 2013

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 24, 2013

Registration No. 333-

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

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

bluebird bio, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

13-3680878
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

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bluebird bio, Inc.

840 Memorial Drive, 4th Floor

Cambridge, MA 02139

(617) 491-5601

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED 2002 EMPLOYEE, DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANT PLAN

2010 STOCK OPTION AND GRANT PLAN

2013 STOCK OPTION AND INCENTIVE PLAN

2013 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

(Full Title of the Plans)

Nick Leschly

President and Chief Executive Officer

bluebird bio, Inc.

840 Memorial Drive, 4th Floor

Cambridge, MA 02139

(617) 491-5601

(Name and Address of Agent For Service)

Copy to:

Michael H. Bison, Esq.

Goodwin Procter LLP

Exchange Place

53 State Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02109

(617) 570-1000

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
 Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered(1) | Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price | Amount of Registration Fee |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | 280,220 shares(2) | \$2.85(3) | \$798,627 | \$108.94 |
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | 3,620,296 shares(4)(5) | \$3.73(6) | \$13,503,704 | \$1,841.91 |
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | 955,000 shares(7) | \$25.71(8) | \$24,553,050 | \$3,349.04 |
| Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share | 238,000 shares(9) | \$25.71(8) | \$6,118,980 | \$834.63 |
| Total | 5,093,516 shares | | | \$6,134.52 |

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), this registration statement shall also cover any additional shares of common stock which become issuable under the above-named plans by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of our outstanding shares of common stock. Pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act, this registration statement shall also cover an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the employee benefit plans described herein.
- (2) Represents shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options under the 2002 Employee, Director and Consultant Plan (the 2002 Plan).
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457 of the Securities Act. For the shares of common stock reserved for issuance upon the exercise of outstanding awards granted under the 2002 Plan, the Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share is \$2.85 per share, which is the weighted average exercise price (rounded to the nearest cent) of the outstanding awards under the 2002 Plan.
- (4) Represents shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options under the 2010 Stock Option and Grant Plan (the 2010 Plan).
- (5) To the extent outstanding awards under the 2010 Plan are cancelled, forfeited or otherwise terminated without being exercised, the number of shares underlying such awards will be available for grant under the 2013 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the 2013 Plan).
- (6) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457 of the Securities Act. For the shares of common stock reserved for issuance upon the exercise of outstanding awards granted under the 2010 Plan, the Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share is \$3.73 per share, which is the weighted average exercise price (rounded to the nearest cent) of the outstanding awards under the 2010 Plan.
- (7) Represents shares of common stock available for future issuance under the 2013 Plan.
- (8) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457 of the Securities Act, and based on \$25.71, the average of the high and low sale prices of the registrant's common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on June 20, 2013.
- (9) Represents shares of common stock available for future issuance under the 2013 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Proposed sales to take place as soon after the effective date of the registration statement as awards are granted, exercised or distributed under the above-named plans.

Part I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.*

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.*

* The information called for in Part I of Form S-8 is not being filed with or included in this Form S-8 (by incorporation by reference or otherwise) in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC).

Part II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The registrant hereby incorporates by reference into this registration statement the following documents filed with the SEC:

(a) The prospectus filed by the registrant with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act, on June 19, 2013, relating to the registration statement on Form S-1, as amended (Registration No. 333-188605), which contains the registrant's audited financial statements for the latest fiscal year for which such statements have been filed, and the related registration statement (Registration No. 333-189430) filed pursuant to Rule 430A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended; and

(b) The description of the registrant's common stock contained in the registrant's registration statement on Form 8-A (Registration No. 001-35966), filed by the registrant with the SEC under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), on June 14, 2013, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents that the registrant subsequently files pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this registration statement which indicates that all of the shares of common stock offered have been sold or which deregisters all of such shares then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

Under no circumstances will any information filed under current items 2.02 or 7.01 of Form 8-K be deemed incorporated herein by reference unless such Form 8-K expressly provides to the contrary.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.
Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law permits a corporation to include in its charter documents, and in agreements between the corporation and its directors and officers, provisions expanding the scope of indemnification beyond that specifically provided by the current law.

The registrant's amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for the indemnification of directors to the fullest extent permissible under Delaware law.

The registrant's amended and restated by-laws provide for the indemnification of officers, directors and third parties acting on the registrant's behalf if such persons act in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in and not opposed to the registrant's best interest, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, such indemnified party had no reason to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

The registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with each of its directors and executive officers, in addition to the indemnification provisions provided for in its charter documents, and the registrant intends to enter into indemnification agreements with any new directors and executive officers in the future. These agreements provide for indemnification for all reasonable expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any action or proceeding brought against them by reason of the fact that they are or were agents of the registrant.

The registrant has purchased and maintains insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director or officer against any loss arising from any claim asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in that capacity, subject to certain exclusions and limits of the amount of coverage.

These indemnification provisions and the indemnification agreements entered into between the registrant and its officers and directors may be sufficiently broad to permit indemnification of the registrant's officers and directors for liabilities (including reimbursement of expenses incurred) arising under the Securities Act.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See the Exhibit Index on the page immediately preceding the exhibits for a list of exhibits filed as part of this registration statement, which Exhibit Index is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act.

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement.

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) herein do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)) that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(h) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cambridge, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the 24th day of June, 2013.

bluebird bio, Inc.

By: /s/ Nick Leschly
 Nick Leschly
 President and Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned officers and directors of bluebird bio, Inc., hereby severally constitute and appoint Nick Leschly and Jeffrey T. Walsh, and each of them singly (with full power to each of them to act alone), our true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution in each of them for him and in his name, place and stead, and in any and all capacities, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as full to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated below on the 24th day of June, 2013.

| Signature | Title |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| /s/ Nick Leschly Nick Leschly | President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) |
| /s/ Jeffrey T. Walsh Jeffrey T. Walsh | Chief Operating Officer and Secretary (Principal Financial Officer) |
| /s/ Linda C. Bain Linda C. Bain | Vice President, Finance and Business Operations and Treasurer (Principal Accounting Officer) |
| /s/ Daniel S. Lynch Daniel S. Lynch | Chairman of the Board |
| /s/ Wendy L. Dixon, Ph.D. Wendy L. Dixon, Ph.D. | Director |
| /s/ Steven Gillis, Ph.D. Steven Gillis, Ph.D. | Director |
| /s/ John M. Maraganore, Ph.D. | |

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John M. Maraganore, Ph.D.

Director

/s/ Dr. Axel Polack
Dr. Axel Polack

Director

| Signature | Title |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| /s/ David P. Schenkein, M.D. David P. Schenkein, M.D. | Director |
| /s/ Robert I. Tepper Robert I. Tepper | Director |

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.1 | Specimen common stock certificate (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 4.2 | Form of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 4.3 | Form of Amended and Restated Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 5.1* | Opinion of Goodwin Procter LLP. |
| 23.1* | Consent of Ernst & Young LLP. |
| 23.2* | Consent of McGladrey LLP. |
| 23.3 | Consent of Goodwin Procter LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1). |
| 24.1 | Power of attorney (included on signature page). |
| 99.1 | Second Amended and Restated 2002 Employee, Director and Consultant Plan, as amended, and forms of award agreement thereunder (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 99.2 | 2010 Stock Option and Grant Plan, as amended, and forms of award agreement thereunder (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 99.3 | 2013 Stock Option and Incentive Plan and forms of award agreement thereunder (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |
| 99.4 | 2013 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.17 to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, as amended (File No. 333-188605)). |

* Filed herewith.