As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 3, 2024

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

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

# TELESIS BIO INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

45-1216839 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

10431 Wateridge Circle, Suite 150 San Diego, CA 92121

(Address of principal executive offices including zip code)

## **2021 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN**

2021 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN (Full title of the plans)

> Todd R. Nelson Chief Executive Officer Telesis Bio Inc. 10431 Wateridge Circle, Suite 150 San Diego, CA 92121 (858) 228-4115

(Name, address, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

Kirt W. Shuldberg Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP 3570 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92130 (858) 436-8000 **Registration No. 333-**

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

Large accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Non-accelerated filer  $\boxtimes$ 

Accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Smaller reporting company  $\boxtimes$ 

Emerging growth company  $\boxtimes$ 

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 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") registers shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share ("Shares") of Telesis Bio Inc. (the "Registrant") reserved for issuance under the Registrant's 2021 Stock Incentive Plan (the "SIP") and 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP"). The number of Shares available for grant and issuance under the SIP is subject to an annual increase on the first day of each fiscal year, by an amount equal to the least of (i) 5,250,000 Shares, (ii) five percent (5%) of the outstanding shares of all classes of the Registrant's common stock on the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year and (iii) a lesser number of Shares available for grant and issuance under the ESPP is subject to an annual increase on the first day of each fiscal year, by an amount equal to the least of (i) 1,050,000 Shares, (ii) one percent (1%) of the outstanding shares of all classes of the Registrant's common stock on the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year, ii) one percent (1%) of the outstanding shares of all classes of the Registrant's common stock on the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year and (iii) an amount determined by the Administrator (as defined in the ESPP).

This Registration Statement registers (1) 1,503,166 Shares available for grant and issuance under the SIP, all of which became available for grant and issuance under the SIP on January 1, 2024, and (2) 300,633 Shares available for issuance under the ESPP, all of which became available for grant and issuance under the ESPP on January 1, 2024.

## PART I

## **INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS**

The information specified in Item 1 and Item 2 of Part I of Form S-8 is omitted from this Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") in accordance with the provisions of Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and the introductory note to Part I of Form S-8. The documents containing the information specified in Part I of Form S-8 will be delivered to the participants in the equity benefit plans covered by this Registration Statement as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) under the Securities Act.

#### PART II

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

Telesis Bio Inc. (the "Registrant") hereby incorporates by reference into this Registration Statement the following documents and information heretofore filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"):

- (1) The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, filed with the Commission on March 29, 2024, pursuant to Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") (File No. 001-40497);
- (2) All reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year covered by the Registrant's Annual Report referred to in (1) above (other than information in any Current Report on Form 8-K deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with the rules of the Commission and, except as may be noted in any such Form 8-K, exhibits filed on such Form 8-K that are related to such information); and
- (3) The description of the Registrant's common stock contained in Exhibit 4.10 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, filed with the Commission on March 29, 2024.

All documents filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement that indicates that all securities offered have been sold or that deregisters all securities then remaining unsold shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and not filed in accordance with the rules of the Commission shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any subsequently filed document which also is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

#### 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 empowers a corporation to indemnify its directors and officers and to purchase insurance with respect to liability arising out of their capacity or status as directors and officers, provided that the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in its best interests, and, with respect to any criminal action, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's actions were unlawful. The Delaware General Corporation Law further provides that the indemnification permitted thereunder shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the directors and officers may be entitled under the corporation's bylaws, any agreement, a vote of stockholders or otherwise. The certificate of incorporation of the Registrant provides for the indemnification of the Registrant's directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted under the Delaware General Corporation Law. In addition, the bylaws of the Registrant require the Registrant to fully indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding (whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, or officer of the Registrant, or is or was a director or officer of the Registrant serving at the Registrant's request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

Section 102(b)(7) of the Delaware General Corporation Law permits a corporation to provide in its certificate of incorporation that a director of the corporation shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except (1) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (2) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (3) for payments of unlawful dividends or unlawful stock repurchases, redemptions or other distributions or (4) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. The Registrant's certificate of incorporation provides that the Registrant's directors shall not be personally liable to the Registrant or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director and that if the Delaware General Corporation Law is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of the Registrant's directors shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, as so amended.

Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law provides, among other things, that a director who willfully or negligently approves of an unlawful payment of dividends or an unlawful stock purchase or redemption may be held liable for such actions. A director who was either absent when the unlawful actions were approved, or dissented at the time, may avoid liability by causing his or her dissent to such actions to be entered in the books containing minutes of the meetings of the board of directors at the time such action occurred or immediately after such absent director receives notice of the unlawful acts.

As permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, the Registrant has entered into separate indemnification agreements with each of the Registrant's directors and certain of the Registrant's officers which require the Registrant, among other things, to indemnify them against certain liabilities which may arise by reason of their status as directors, officers or certain other employees.

The Registrant maintains insurance policies under which its directors and officers are insured, within the limits and subject to the limitations of those policies, against certain expenses in connection with the defense of, and certain liabilities which might be imposed as a result of, actions, suits or proceedings to

which they are parties by reason of being or having been directors or officers. The coverage provided by these policies may apply whether or not the Registrant would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

These indemnification provisions and the indemnification agreements entered into between the Registrant and the Registrant's 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 of 1933.

#### Item 7. <u>Exemption from Registration Claimed</u>.

Not applicable.

#### Item 8. Exhibits.

Exhibit						
Number	Description					
4.1 <sup>(1)</sup>	Specimen Common Stock certificate.					
$4.2^{(2)}$	2021 Stock Incentive Plan and forms of agreement thereunder.					
$4.3^{(3)}$	2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan and forms of agreements thereunder.					
5.1	Opinion of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP.					
	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.					
23.2	Consent of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP (see Exhibit 5.1).					
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page hereto).					
107.1	Calculation of Filing Fee Tables					

(1) Incorporated by reference herein to Exhibit 4.2 filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A (Registration No. 333-256644), filed with the Commission on June 14, 2021.

(2) Incorporated by reference herein to Exhibit 10.3 filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-257191), filed with the Commission on June 21, 2021.

(3) Incorporated by reference herein to Exhibit 10.4 filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-257191), filed with the Commission on June 21, 2021.

#### Item 9. <u>Undertakings</u>.

A. The undersigned 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 of 1933;

(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 percent 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)(i) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, 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 of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in this 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.

(C) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 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 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 Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, 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 San Diego, State of California, on April 3, 2024.

# TELESIS BIO INC.

By: /s/ Todd R. Nelson

Todd R. Nelson Chief Executive Officer

#### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Todd R. Nelson and Rob Cutler, and each of them acting individually, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of each to act alone, with full powers of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any and all amendments to this Registration Statement on Form S-8 (including post-effective amendments), 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, with full power of each to act alone, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully for all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or his, her or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the undersigned has executed this Power of Attorney as of the date indicated.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date	
/s/ Todd R. Nelson Todd R. Nelson	Chief Executive Officer, Director ( <i>Principal</i> - <i>Executive Officer</i> )	April 3, 2024	
/s/ William J. Kullback William J. Kullback	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer - and Principal Accounting Officer)	April 3, 2024	
/s/ Andrea L. Jackson Andrea L. Jackson	Director	April 3, 2024	
/s/ Jami D. Nachtsheim Jami D. Nachtsheim	Director	April 3, 2024	
/s/ Greg Herrema Greg Herrema	Director	April 3, 2024	
/s/ Christine A. Tsingos Christine A. Tsingos	Director	April 3, 2024	
/s/ Annette Tumolo Annette Tumolo	Director	April 3, 2024	

/s/ Frank R. Witney Frank R. Witney

April 3, 2024

Exhibit 5.1



SILICON VALLEY ANN ARBOR AUSTIN BEJING BOSTON LOS ANGELES NEW YORK SAN DIEGO SAN FRANCISCO SÃO PAULO SINGAPORE

April 3, 2024

Telesis Bio, Inc. 10431 Wateridge Circle Suite 150 San Diego, CA 92121

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We refer to the registration statement on Form S-8 (the "*Registration Statement*") to be filed by Telesis Bio, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "*Company*"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "*Commission*") in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Act*"), of an aggregate of 1,803,799 shares of the Company's common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "*Shares*"), that are subject to issuance by the Company upon (i) the exercise or settlement of awards granted or to be granted under the Company's 2021 Stock Incentive Plan and (ii) the exercise of purchase rights to acquire shares of common stock granted or to be granted under the Company's 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. The Company's 2021 Stock Incentive Plan and 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan are collectively referred to in this letter as the "*Plans*".

In connection with this opinion, we have reviewed the actions proposed to be taken by you in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares to be issued under the Plans. We have also examined and relied upon the Registration Statement and the originals or copies certified to our satisfaction of such other documents, records, certificates, memoranda and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to enable us to render the opinion expressed below. With your consent, we have relied upon certificates and other assurances of officers of the Company as to factual matters without having independently verified such factual matters. We have assumed the genuineness and authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, and the conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as copies thereof and the due execution and delivery of all documents where due execution and delivery are a prerequisite to the effectiveness thereof.

This opinion is being furnished in connection with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Act, and no opinion is expressed herein as to any matter pertaining to the contents of the Registration Statement, other than as expressly stated herein with respect to the issue of the Shares. Our opinion is limited to the matters stated herein and no opinion is implied or may be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. Our opinion herein is expressed solely with respect to the federal laws of the United States and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "*DGCL*"). Our opinion is based on these laws as in effect on the date hereof, and we disclaim any obligation to advise you of facts, circumstances, events or developments which hereafter may be brought to our attention and which may

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alter, affect or modify the opinion expressed herein. We are not rendering any opinion as to compliance with any federal or state antifraud law, rule or regulation relating to securities, or to the sale or issuance thereof.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, we advise you that, in our opinion, when the Shares have been issued and sold by the Company pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Plans and pursuant to the agreements which accompany the Plans, and in accordance with the Registration Statement, such Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not thereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP

GUNDERSON DETTMER STOUGH VILLENEUVE FRANKLIN & HACHIGIAN, LLP

## CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference, in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our report dated March 28, 2024 (which includes an explanatory paragraph relating to Telesis Bio Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern), relating to the consolidated financial statements of Telesis Bio Inc. as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, appearing in Telesis Bio Inc.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

/s/ WithumSmith+Brown, PC

San Francisco, California April 3, 2024

## CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE TABLES

## Form S-8 (Form Type)

#### Telesis Bio Inc. (Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

#### Table 1 - Newly Registered Securities

Security Type	Securities Class Title	Fee Calculation Rule	Amount Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Fee Rate	Amount of Registration Fee
Equity	Common Stock \$0.001 par value	Rules 457(c) and (h)	1,503,166 shares (2)	\$0.436 (4)	\$655,380.38	0.00014760	\$96.74
	Common Stock \$0.001 par value	Rules 457(c) and (h)	300,633 shares (3)	\$0.371 (5)	\$111,534.85	0.00014760	\$16.47
TOTAL OFFERING AMOUNT			1,803,799 shares		\$766,915.23		\$113.21
TOTAL FEE OFFSETS (6)							
NET FEE DUE							\$113.21

(1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this Registration Statement covers any additional shares of the Registrant's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Common Stock") that become issuable under the Registrant's 2021 Stock Incentive Plan (the "SIP") and the Registrant's 2021 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP"), by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the Registrant's receipt of consideration that results in an increase in the number of outstanding shares of Common Stock.

(2) Represents an automatic increase of 1,503,166 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock reserved for issuance under, and which annual increase is provided for in, the SIP.

(3) Represents an automatic increase of 300,633 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock reserved for issuance under, and which annual increase is provided for in, the ESPP.

- (4) Estimated in accordance with Rules 457(c) and (h) of the Securities Act solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee on the basis of \$0.436 per share, which represents the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on April 1, 2024.
- (5) Estimated in accordance with Rules 457(c) and (h) of the Securities Act solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee on the basis of \$0.371 per share, which represents 85% of the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on April 1, 2024. Pursuant to the ESPP, which plan is incorporated by reference herein, the purchase price of the shares of the Registrant's Common Stock will be 85% of the lower of the fair market value of the Registrant's Common Stock on the first trading day of the offering period or on the date of exercise.

(6) The Registrant does not have any fee offsets.