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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): August 2, 2023

AXCELLA HEALTH INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) **001-38901** (Commission

File Number)

26-3321056 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

P.O. Box 1270

Littleton, Massachusetts (Address of principal executive offices)

01460 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (857) 320-2200

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

| Title of each class | Trading Symbol(s) | Name of each exchange on which registered |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Common Stock, \$0.001 Par Value | AXLA | Nasdaq Global Market |

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 \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 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.08. Shareholder Director Nominations.

On August 2, 2023, the board of directors of Axcella Health Inc. (the "Company") determined that the Company's annual meeting of stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") will be held on September 11, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time via virtual web service and established August 17, 2023 as the record date for determining stockholders entitled to notice of, and vote at, the Annual Meeting.

In accordance with Rule 14a-5(f) and Rule 14a-8(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the Company's amended and restated bylaws (the "Bylaws"), the deadline for receipt of stockholder proposals or nominations for inclusion in the Company's proxy statement for the 2023 Annual Meeting pursuant to Rule 14a-8 will be no later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, August 13, 2023, or the tenth (10th) day following the date of this public announcement of the 2023 Annual Meeting date. Stockholder proposals must comply with all of the applicable requirements set forth in the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act and the Bylaws. The August 13, 2023 deadline will also apply in determining whether notice of a stockholder proposal is timely for purposes of exercising discretionary voting authority with respect to proxies under Rule 14a-4(c)(1) of the Exchange Act as well as the notice requirements pursuant to Rule 14a-19 of the Exchange Act. Stockholder proposals and director nominations should be addressed to our Corporate Secretary, c/o Axcella Health Inc., P.O. Box 1270, Littleton, Massachusetts 01460.

SIGNATURE

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: August 4, 2023

Axcella Health Inc.

By:/s/ William R. Hinshaw, Jr.Name:/s/ William R. Hinshaw, Jr.Title:President, Chief Executive Officer and Director