

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

NOVAVAX, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of incorporation)

20 Firstfield Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
(Address of principal executive offices)

22-2816046
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Novavax, Inc. Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan

(Full Title of the Plan)

JOHN A. HERRMANN III

Senior Vice President, General Counsel &
Corporate Secretary
Novavax, Inc.

20 Firstfield Road, Maryland 20878
(240) 268-2000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

with copies to:

PAUL M. KINSELLA

Ropes & Gray LLP

800 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02199-3600

(617) 951-7000

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. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting
company

(Do not check if a smaller
reporting company)

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered(1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share(2)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee
Novavax, Inc. Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan, Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	5,000,000	\$ 0.97	\$ 4,850,000	\$ 563

(1) Plus, pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), such additional number of shares of Novavax, Inc. common stock as may be issued upon a stock split, stock dividend, or similar transaction.

- (2) Pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h)(1) under the Securities Act, the proposed maximum offering price per share and the maximum aggregate offering price for the shares have been calculated solely for the purpose of computing the registration fee on the basis of the average of the high and low prices of Novavax, Inc. common stock as reported by The NASDAQ Global Select Market on August 3, 2017, which were \$0.99 and \$0.95, respectively.
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-
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 (this “Registration Statement”) registers 5,000,000 additional shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the “Common Stock”) of Novavax, Inc. (the “Registrant”) that may be issued pursuant to awards under the Registrant’s Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (the “2015 Plan”).

PART I

As permitted by Rule 428 under the Securities Act, this Registration Statement omits the information specified in Part I of Form S-8. The documents containing the information specified in Part I will be delivered to the participants of the Novavax, Inc. 2015 Plan, as required by Rule 428(b).

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed by the Registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission are hereby incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8:

1. The Registrant’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, filed on February 27, 2017;
2. The Registrant’s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2017, filed on May 8, 2017, and June 30, 2017, filed on August 8, 2017;
3. The Registrant’s Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on June 16, 2017 and July 26, 2017; and
4. The description of the Registrant’s Common Stock (\$0.01 par value) contained in the Registrant’s Registration Statement No. 0-26770 on Form 10 filed on September 14, 1995 pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents filed after the date of this registration statement by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment that indicates that all shares of Novavax, Inc.’s common stock offered hereunder have been sold or which deregisters all shares of Novavax, Inc. common stock remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein 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 for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained herein, or in any other subsequently filed document that also is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified 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 General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware provides as follows:

“A corporation shall have the power to 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 (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys’ fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

A corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys’ fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made with respect to any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.”

The Registrant’s second amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that it will indemnify each person who was or is a party or threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of us) by reason of the fact that he or she is or was, or has agreed to become, our director or officer, or is or was serving, or has agreed to serve, at the Registrant’s request as a director, officer or trustee of, or in a similar capacity with, another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise (all such persons being referred to as an “Indemnitee”), or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken or omitted in such capacity, against all expenses (including attorneys’ fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit or proceeding and any appeal therefrom, if such Indemnitee acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, our best interests, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, he or she had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

The Registrant's second amended and restated certificate of incorporation also provides that it will indemnify any Indemnitee who was or is a party to an action or suit by or in the right of the Registrant to procure a judgment in the Registrant's favor by reason of the fact that the Indemnitee is or was, or has agreed to become, a director or officer, or is or was serving, or has agreed to serve, at the Registrant's request as a director, officer or trustee or, or in a similar capacity with, another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken or omitted in such capacity, against all expenses (including attorneys' fees) and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, and any appeal therefrom, if the Indemnitee acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the Registrant's best interests, except that no indemnification shall be made with respect to any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the Registrant, unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery of Delaware determines that, despite such adjudication but in view of all of the circumstances, he or she is entitled to indemnification of such expenses. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent that any Indemnitee has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, he or she will be indemnified by the Registrant against all expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her or on his or her behalf in connection therewith. If the Registrant does not assume the defense, expenses must be advanced to an Indemnitee under certain circumstances.

The Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors and certain of its officers, in addition to the indemnification provided for in its second amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws, and intends to enter into indemnification agreements with any new directors and executive officers in the future. The Registrant has purchased and intends to maintain 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 any such capacity, subject to certain exclusions.

Item 8. Exhibits.

See Exhibit Index immediately following the signature page.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(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;

(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 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:

A. Paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-8, and 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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement; and

B. Paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(1)(iii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3 or Form F-3 and 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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the 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 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.

(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 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 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 Gaithersburg, state of Maryland on August 9, 2017.

NOVAVAX, INC.

By: /s/ Stanley C. Erck
Stanley C. Erck
President and Chief Executive Officer
and Director

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Stanley C. Erck, Barclay A. Phillips and John A. Herrmann III, and each of them singly, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution in each of them singly, for him and in his name, place and stead, and in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of Novavax, Inc., and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting to the 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 or about the premises, as full to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that the attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of each of them or their substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

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

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ Stanley C. Erck</u> Stanley C. Erck	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Barclay A. Phillips</u> Barclay A. Phillips	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ James F. Young</u> James F. Young	Director	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Gail K. Boudreaux</u> Gail K. Boudreaux	Director	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Richard H. Douglas</u> Richard H. Douglas	Director	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Gary C. Evans</u> Gary C. Evans	Director	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Michael A. McManus, Jr., J.D.</u> Michael A. McManus, Jr., J.D.	Director	August 9, 2017
<u>/s/ Rajiv I. Modi</u> Rajiv I. Modi	Director	August 9, 2017

INDEX OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
4.1	Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, filed on August 10, 2015)
4.2	Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Registrant (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed on March 12, 2013)
5*	Opinion of Ropes & Gray LLP
10.1	Novavax, Inc. Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan (Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement filed April 28, 2017 in connection with the Annual Meeting held on June 15, 2017)
23.1*	Consent of Ropes & Gray LLP (included in Exhibit 5)
23.2*	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
24*	Power of Attorney to file future amendments. Set forth on the signature page of this Registration Statement

* Filed herewith



ROPES & GRAY LLP
PRUDENTIAL TOWER
800 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02199-3600
WWW.ROPESGRAY.COM

August 9, 2017

Novavax, Inc.
20 Firstfield Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This opinion letter is furnished to you in connection with the registration statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement"), filed by Novavax, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), on or about the date hereof, with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), for the registration of 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$0.01 par value, of the Company (the "Shares"). The Shares are issuable under the Company's Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

We are familiar with the actions taken by the Company in connection with the adoption of the Plan. We have examined such certificates, documents and records and have made such investigation of fact and such examination of law as we have deemed appropriate in order to enable us to render the opinions set forth herein. In conducting such investigation, we have relied, without independent verification, upon certificates of officers of the Company, public officials and other appropriate persons.

The opinion expressed below is limited to the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized and, when the Shares have been issued and sold in accordance with the terms of the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion letter 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 Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ropes & Gray LLP

Ropes & Gray LLP

Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to the Novavax, Inc. Amended and Restated 2015 Stock Incentive Plan, of our reports dated February 27, 2017, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Novavax Inc., and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Novavax, Inc., included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Baltimore, MD
August 9, 2017
