



VIA EDGAR

February 2, 2018

United States Securities and Exchange Commission  
Division of Corporation Finance  
100 F Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
Attn: Ms. Christine Westbrook

**Re: Catalyst Biosciences, Inc.  
Registration Statement on Form S-3  
File No. 333-222644  
Request for Acceleration of Effectiveness**

Dear Ms. Westbrook:

Pursuant to Rule 461 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Catalyst Biosciences, Inc. a Delaware corporation (the "*Company*"), hereby requests that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("*Commission*") take appropriate action to cause the above-referenced Registration Statement to become effective at 4:00 PM Eastern Time on February 6, 2018, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Please contact Stephen B. Thau of Morrison & Foerster LLP, counsel to the Company, at (650) 813-5640 should you have any questions or require additional information regarding this request and to notify us that the Registration Statement has been declared effective pursuant to this acceleration request.

Very truly yours,

**CATALYST BIOSCIENCES, INC.**

By: /s/Fletcher Payne  
Name: Fletcher Payne  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

cc: Stephen B. Thau, Morrison & Foerster LLP