

| OMB APPROVAL | |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Hagen Heidi</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O VERICEL CORPORATION 64 SIDNEY STREET (Street) CAMBRIDGE MA 02139 (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>Vericel Corp [VCEL]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/29/2026 | |
| 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|------------|-------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 04/29/2026 | | M | | 3,200 | A | (I) | 35,050 | D | |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | | | | | Title |
| Restricted Stock Unit | (2) | 04/29/2026 | | M | | 3,200 | | (3) | (4) | Common Stock | 3,200 | \$0 | 0 | D | |
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$33.43 | 04/29/2026 | | A | | 8,000 | | (5) | 04/29/2036 | Common Stock | 8,000 | \$0 | 8,000 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | (2) | 04/29/2026 | | A | | 3,200 | | (6) | (4) | Common Stock | 3,200 | \$0 | 3,200 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

- The shares of common stock were acquired by the Reporting Person as a result of the vesting of Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) granted to the Reporting Person on April 30, 2025.
- Each RSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of common stock of Vericel Corporation.
- These RSUs vest 100% on the earlier of April 30, 2026, or the date of the first Annual Meeting of Stockholders following April 30, 2025.
- No expiration date for this type of award.
- The option vests over a 1-year period, in equal monthly increments, contingent upon continued service to the Company.
- These RSUs vest 100% on the earlier of April 29, 2027, or the date of the first Annual Meeting of Stockholders following April 29, 2026.

/s/ Sean Flynn, as Attorney-in-Fact for Heidi Hagen 05/01/2026

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.