

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

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. \_\_)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

NewLink Genetics Corporation  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box)

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

1. Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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2. Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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3. Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (Set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

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4. Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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5. Total fee paid:

- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

6. Amount Previously Paid:

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7. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

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8. Filing Party:

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9. Date Filed:

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NewLink Genetics Corporation



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**IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION**

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DESIGNATION (IF ANY)  
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ADD 6



**Vote by Internet**

- Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NLNK](http://www.envisionreports.com/NLNK)
- Or scan the QR code with your smartphone
- Follow the steps outlined on the secure website

**Stockholder Meeting Notice**

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the NewLink Genetics Corporation Stockholder Meeting to be Held on May 23, 2018.**

Under Securities and Exchange Commission rules, you are receiving this notice that the proxy materials for the annual stockholders' meeting are available on the Internet. Follow the instructions below to view the materials and vote online or request a copy. The items to be voted on and location of the annual meeting are on the reverse side. Your vote is important!

This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you on the Internet. We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting. The proxy statement and annual report to stockholders are available at:

[www.envisionreports.com/NLNK](http://www.envisionreports.com/NLNK)



**Easy Online Access — A Convenient Way to View Proxy Materials and Vote**

When you go online to view materials, you can also vote your shares.

- Step 1:** Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NLNK](http://www.envisionreports.com/NLNK) to view the materials.
- Step 2:** Click on **Cast Your Vote or Request Materials**.
- Step 3:** Follow the instructions on the screen to log in.
- Step 4:** Make your selection as instructed on each screen to select delivery preferences and vote.

When you go online, you can also help the environment by consenting to receive electronic delivery of future materials.



**Obtaining a Copy of the Proxy Materials – If you want to receive a copy of these documents, you must request one. There is no charge to you for requesting a copy. Please make your request for a copy as instructed on the reverse side on or before May 4, 2018 to facilitate timely delivery.**



2 N O T

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## Stockholder Meeting Notice

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NewLink Genetics Corporation's Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held on May 23, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. local time at the offices of NewLink Genetics Corporation, 2503 South Loop Drive, Suite 5100, Ames, IA 50010.

Proposals to be voted on at the meeting are listed below along with the Board of Directors' recommendations.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" ALL nominees, "FOR" Proposals 2 and 4 and "1 YEAR" on Proposal 3.

1. To elect the Board's nominees for director, Chad A. Johnson, Ernest J. Talarico, III and Lota S. Zoth to serve until the 2021 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.  
01 - Chad A. Johnson                      02 - Ernest J. Talarico, III                      03 - Lota S. Zoth
2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the proxy statement.
3. To indicate, on an advisory basis, the preferred frequency of future advisory votes on the compensation of our named executive officers.
4. To ratify the selection, by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

**PLEASE NOTE – YOU CANNOT VOTE BY RETURNING THIS NOTICE. To vote your shares you must vote online or request a paper copy of the proxy materials to receive a proxy card. If you wish to attend and vote at the meeting, please bring this notice with you.**

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Directions to the NewLink Genetics Corporation 2018 annual meeting are available in the proxy statement, which can be viewed at [www.envisionreports.com/NLNK](http://www.envisionreports.com/NLNK).



### Here's how to order a copy of the proxy materials and select a future delivery preference:

**Paper copies:** Current and future paper delivery requests can be submitted via the telephone, Internet or email options below.

**Email copies:** Current and future email delivery requests must be submitted via the Internet following the instructions below. If you request an email copy of current materials you will receive an email with a link to the materials.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must use the number in the shaded bar on the reverse side when requesting a set of proxy materials.

- **Internet** – Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NLNK](http://www.envisionreports.com/NLNK). Click Cast Your Vote or Request Materials. Follow the instructions to log in and order a copy of the current meeting materials and submit your preference for email or paper delivery of future meeting materials.
- **Telephone** – Call us free of charge at 1-866-641-4276 and follow the instructions to log in and order a paper copy of the materials by mail for the current meeting. You can also submit a preference to receive a paper copy for future meetings.
- **Email** – Send email to [investorvote@computershare.com](mailto:investorvote@computershare.com) with "Proxy Materials NewLink Genetics Corporation" in the subject line. Include in the message your full name and address, plus the number located in the shaded bar on the reverse, and state in the email that you want a paper copy of current meeting materials. You can also state your preference to receive a paper copy for future meetings. To facilitate timely delivery, all requests for a paper copy of the proxy materials must be received by May 4, 2018.