# ITEM 1 - COVER PAGE



ADV PART 2B

BROCHURE

**RICHARD A. BACKER, MBA, CPA®**

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SEPTEMBER 2025

This Form ADV 2B (“Brochure Supplement”) provides information about the background and qualifications of Richard Backer (CRD #5137335). The information in this brochure supplements the Part 2A brochure of Apella Capital, LLC d/b/a Apella Wealth (hereinafter “Apella” or “firm”), which you should have received a copy of. Please contact our Chief Compliance Officer at (860) 785-2260 or trichards@apellawealth.com if you did not receive Apella’s Part 2A brochure or have any questions about the contents of this supplement. Additional information about Richard Backer is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

# ITEM 2 – EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND & BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

## Richard Backer, MBA, CPA®

* CRD #: 5137335
* YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946

## Educational Background:

* 1969: Adelphi University; Master of Business Administration
* 1967: Adelphi University; Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting

## BUSINESS BACKGROUND:

* 2025 – Present: Apella: Senior Financial Advisor
* 1992 – Present: Richard A. Backer CPA, PC; President, Director and Shareholder
* 2003 – 2025: Park Piedmont Advisors, LLC; Investment Adviser Representative
* 2018 – 2022: Backer & Mauro CPAs LLP; Certified Public Accountant, Partner

## PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS:

* CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA)

**Certified PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (“CPA”) Designation Minimum Qualifications**

The Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Designation is issued by the Boards of Accountancy. Like regular accountants, CPAs can help organizations and individuals:

* record and organize financial information;
* analyze trends;
* make budgetary recommendations;
* prepare tax documents;
* perform internal audits;
* ensure all financial activities are compliant with local and federal regulations.

However, due to their training in the public sector, CPAs can do a few other things that regular accounts legally can’t, such as:

* Representing clients during IRS audits;
* Perform external and public audits;
* Prepare audited financial statements for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Each state has slightly different requirements that one must follow for CPA certification. These requirements are determined by the state’s Board of Accountancy and The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA®). To check the requirements of your state, please [click here](https://www.accounting-education.org/cpa-requirements/). To verify an individual’s CPA status, please [click here](https://cpaverify.org/).

# ITEM 3: DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION

Registered investment advisers must disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of each supervised person providing investment advice.

Richard Backer has no history of any legal or disciplinary events deemed material to a client’s consideration of Richard Backer to act as their investment adviser representative. FINRA’s BrokerCheck® system and the Investment Adviser Public Disclosure system provides additional information regarding the registration history of Richard Backer. Please visit FINRA’s BrokerCheck® system at <https://brokercheck.finra.org> or the IAPD system at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov) for additional information.

# ITEM 4: OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

In addition to his role with Apella, Richard Backer is also a Certified Public Accountant with Richard A. Backer, CPA, PC an unaffiliated accounting firm to which he devotes a portion of his professional time. If you require accounting services, he may recommend that you use his firm. The fees for our advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees charged by Richard A. Backer, CPA, PC for its services. You are under no obligation to use Richard A. Backer, CPA, PC for accounting services and may obtain comparable services and/or lower fees through other firms.

# ITEM 5: ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

Richard Backer does not receive any economic benefit outside of the salaries and bonuses described in Item 4 of this brochure or on Form ADV Part 2A Items 10 and 12.

# ITEM 6: SUPERVISION

Richard Backer is supervised by Nick Levinson. Nick Levinson is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day advisory activities conducted by Richard Backer. Nick Levinson conducts periodic reviews of the IAR’s advisory work to ensure it is consistent with applicable regulatory requirements and the firm's compliance program. Nick Levinson can be reached at 312-722-6760.

Ultimate supervisory authority and responsibility for compliance matters rests with the firm's Chief Compliance Officer (CCO), Timothy Richards, who monitors the overall effectiveness of the firm’s supervisory structure. The CCO may review the IAR’s activities as part of the firm’s broader compliance testing program, including reviews of client files, trade activity, and communications, as warranted.