1. The travel documents that you will need each time you enter the US are your passport, your F1 visa, and your I-20. Be sure not to lose or forget them!

2. Always check to make sure that the last I-20 signature that you have will last until after you return to the US. Each signature lasts for 12 months. If you need to get your I-20 signed, drop it off at the ISSO as soon as possible!

3. If you realize that you have forgotten your I-20 or signature as you are about to board your US-bound flight and you cannot reach the ISSO, you should be granted an I-515A (temporary admission), with the requirement of producing the correct documentation within 30 days.

4. If you get to your destination and realize that you have lost or forgotten to sign your I-20, contact the ISSO with your address to make arrangements for a new I-20.

5. If your F1 entry visa expires while in the US but your I-20 is still valid, you are still considered in legal status. However, be sure to only travel if you are able to renew your F1 visa while abroad, as you will not be able to re-enter without it.

6. If your F1 entry visa expires while in the US, you may still eligible to travel to Canada, Mexico and adjacent Caribbean Islands under the requirements of automatic revalidation. Check the US Department of State website for more details and rules, or ask the ISSO about your situation.

7. If you have a travel-related emergency while you are abroad but are not able to reach anyone at the ISSO, call Campus Police at +1(413) 585-2490.

8. If you have plans to travel inside the US, you can use a Mass State ID as identification at the airport instead of your passport. You can find instructions for obtaining one on our website under "Resources".

9. If you are unsure about your legal status or are applying for a change of visa status, talk to a lawyer before leaving the U.S.