<table>
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<th>CASE SCENARIO</th>
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| Post-Completion OPT application has been submitted to USCIS. The program end date of my I-20 is in the future. | As an enrolled student you are in an F-1 student status until the program end date of your I-20. | Yes, you are still an F-1 student (who is enrolled) because your I-20 ends in the future. | • Valid I-20 signed for travel  
• Valid F-1 visa  
• Valid passport  
• Proof of enrollment  
• If received, EAD card  
**NOTE:** If your visa is nearing its expiration date, you might want to consider renewing it. Renewing a visa while on OPT is risky. | Visa issuance and re-entry to the U.S. is at the discretion of the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) immigration officer. The IC cannot guarantee re-entry. However, you can minimize any kind of problems by planning to re-enter the U.S. a few weeks prior to the end date of your I-20. |
| EAD card is approved*. I have a job offer and I have a letter stating the offer with specific dates. | You are in F-1 OPT student status. | Yes | • EAD card  
• Valid I-20 signed for travel  
• Employment Offer Letter on company letterhead. | You have all the necessary conditions to travel. Entry to the U.S. will be decided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) immigration officer. |
| EAD card is approved.* My I-20 program end dates has passed. I don’t have a job offer yet. | You are in an extension of your F-1 student status. | Maybe | • EAD card  
• Valid I-20 signed for travel  
• Valid F-1 visa  
• Valid Passport  
• Strongly Recommended: Employment Offer Letter on company letterhead. | You need to be cautious as you do not have a job to return to. Entry to the U.S. will be decided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) immigration officer. |
| EAD card is approved. I am currently working. I will be renewing my F-1 visa while I am abroad. | You are in F-1 OPT student status. | Maybe | • EAD card  
• Valid I-20 signed for travel  
• Valid passport  
• Employment Offer Letter on company letterhead.  
• Additional documents required for renewing your F-1 visa. | You need to be cautious. You technically are no longer a student. You are in an extension of your F-1 student visa status. It is up to the discretion of the U.S. Consulate/Embassy where you apply to grant you a student visa. |
| EAD is approved and currently working on Post-Completion OPT. OPT STEM extension application is pending and my Post-Completion OPT end date is in the future. | You are in F-1 OPT student status. | Maybe | • EAD card  
• Valid I-20 signed for travel  
• Valid F-1 visa  
• Valid passport  
• Employment Offer Letter on company letterhead. | You need to be cautious because you have a pending application with USCIS and are traveling this may cancel your OPT STEM application. |
| Mailed OPT Post-Completion application to USCIS. The program end date of my I-20 has passed. EAD card not approved and has not been received in the mail. | You are in F-1 OPT pending student status. | No | Travel is not recommended. | Your departure from the U.S. prior to the approval of your EAD card will cancel your OPT application. Returning to the U.S. in F-1 student visa status is not an option. |
| EAD is approved and currently working on Post-Completion OPT. OPT STEM extension application is pending and Post-Completion OPT end date is in the past. | You are in F-1 OPT student status. | No | Travel is not recommended. | You need to be cautious because you have a pending application with USCIS and are traveling this may cancel your OPT STEM application. |

*If your EAD card is approved and it’s being mailed to you, you must wait to receive it and have it physically in your possession. Traveling with the idea that a friend or relative can mail the card to you outside the U.S. is not recommended. Only travel once you have your EAD card in your possession.