# Introduction

The OrderCloud.io API Console provides instant access to your OrderCloud applications. It is extremely useful for rapidly spinning up some data to develop against or learning how to format and call all of the different endpoints OrderCloud.io has available.

## Getting to the Console

The console is available at **devcenter.ordercloud.io/console**and can be navigated to via the top navigation *or* by clicking "Open API Console" when viewing an application in the dashboard. If you navigate directly to the console via the top navigation, you will be prompted to choose a Seller or Buyer application before continuing.

# Console Features

## Current User

When first opening the console, you will notice a black box in the top left that indicates which user you are currently authenticated as. By default, the console will open the application using your developer profile - thereby making you the seller organization's "Default contact user". **This is not a real user**, it is simply there to allow developers access to the API before any real users have been created.

### Current Context

Clicking on the Current User will reveal additional details about your current "context". This includes the active Seller Organization, Buyer Organization (if any), and application you currently have open in the console. You can click the blue links here to quickly jump back into the OrderCloud.io Dashboard for each item.

By selecting"Change Context" you can open a different OrderCloud application without ever leaving the API Console.

### Impersonation

Due to the limited capabilities of the Default Contact User, we have provided a feature for impersonating a **buyer user** within your current context. Within the Current User dropdown you can click "Impersonate User" and search for the buyer user you wish to perform API calls on behalf of.

Once you confirm a buyer user to impersonate, the current context will be updated with the relevant organization/application information and new options for toggling impersonation on or off will appear.

You can now perform API calls from this user's perspective to gain insight into their assignment based relationships and/or user specific data.

### Lockable Parameters

Sometimes you will be making many successive requests with the same parameters. To make this easier for you we've included the ability to lock certain parameter values for the duration of your console session. If you know you'll always be working with the same buyer, enter the Buyer ID parameter once, click the lock button and forget about it!

# Making Requests

Making a request in the API Console is relatively simple. Begin by choosing a resource from the console menu on the left. You can then choose the method (endpoint) you would like to use from the drop down menu. Depending on the endpoint you may be required to fill out some parameters and/or a request body. When all required parameters have been filled out, click "Send" and the successful response or error message will appear in the pane on the right. View previous responses by clicking on the response in the list above the active response body.

# Conclusion

The API Console eliminates the need to make any authentication requests before using the OrderCloud.io API. Use it to dive into your data quickly and make rapid changes while developing your applications. We're always looking for ways to improve the experience, so any feedback or suggestions you have as a user of the platform are greatly appreciated!