## **## Overview**

Anonymous Shopping, or Guest Checkout, is when a user is enabled to browse a catalog of products and/or checkout without registering themselves. Accomplishing this requires OrderCloud.io developers to pull together a lot of platform knowledge. We'll summarize that information here.

## **## Configuring the Application**

An anonymous buyer experience must work within a given buyer user perspective - otherwise OrderCloud.io has no context for determining data the anonymous user has access to, like product and pricing information. Therefore, you will need an active buyer user before we can proceed.

Use the [Create And Assign Users And User Groups](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/buyer-and-seller-organization-management/create-and-assign-users-and-user-groups) guide if you need a reminder on how to do this.

Once you've done that, navigate to the Dashboard and click on the <strong>**Buyer Organizations**</strong> tab from the left hand nav and select your buyer organization by clicking on the name. From there click on the application associated with your Buyer Organization.

Next, we will add an <strong>**Anonymous Template User**</strong>. This will be the user that all anonymous users will inherit security and assignments from.

![Anonymous-Template-User](assets/images/docs-guides/authentication/anonymous-template-user.jpg)

## **## Authenticating Anonymous Users**

Once your application is set up with a template user, we're ready to authenticate anonymously. Using the Client Credentials grant-type and only a client\_id, make a request to the OrderCloud.io OAuth server:

```

POST https://auth.ordercloud.io/oauth/token HTTP/1.1  
client\_id=xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx&scope=ProductReader CategoryReader MeAddressAdmin MeCreditCardAdmin&grant\_type=client\_credentials

```

You will receive a standard OAuth response that contains an access\_token you can use for the duration of the anonymous shopping experience.

<div class="note">Anonymous access\_tokens have a fixed duration of <strong>1 week</strong>, access token duration has no affect on anonymous users. Refresh tokens <strong>**are not available**</strong> to anonymous users.</div>

It is important to note that while it is possible to fully submit an order using this token, there isn't a secure way to let the anonymous user view historical order data. If this is required for your project, you should consider profiling your users at some point before submitting an order.

## **## Profiling Anonymous Users**

Prompting your anonymous shoppers to profile themselves before checking out ensures that historical order data can be captured so the user can view it when they return to your site. When you choose to profile users doesn't matter, it can happen before or after they create an order. Order information created during the anonymous access\_token's life-cycle will transfer to the newly profiled user automatically.

The request is relatively simple: provide the anonymous access\_token for the `tempUserToken` and the request body should contain the profile information filled out by the anonymous user:

```

POST https://api.ordercloud.io/v1/me/register HTTP/1.1  
Authentication: Bearer put\_access\_token\_here  
Content-Type: application/json

{

"ID": "NewUserName",

"Username": "MyUserName",

"FirstName": "John",

"LastName": "Doe",

"Email": "user@email.com",

"Phone": "555-555-5555",

"TermsAccepted": true,

"Active": true,

"xp": null

}

```

Similar to the (OAuth 2.0 Response)[https://documentation.ordercloud.io/platform-guides/authentication/oauth2-workflows#], you will receive an access\_token after profiling the user. At this point, remove the anonymous access\_token and continue forward with the profiled user's access\_token.