

Office for Child Nutrition

CATS.NET Sponsor User's Guide for Demand Ordering

November 2014

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What is Demand Ordering

Demand Ordering is the process of the agencies pre-ordering commodity items prior to the beginning of a school year so that the State may plan and place orders in advance to the USDA and food processors without over ordering.

Objectives of Demand Ordering

- Help minimize inventory levels at state-contracted warehouses by only ordering the quantity of an item that was demand ordered by the agencies
- Tool to maximize entitlement used by schools to help offset food costs by emphasizing the use of entitlement dollars for direct diversion, DOD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, as well as the brown box and processed items delivered through the State contracted warehouses

The Demand Ordering Process

The Demand Ordering Process consists of the following steps:

- 1) OCN determines which products are to be offered to the sponsors on a demand ordering basis for the upcoming school year
- 2) OCN sets up the Demand Ordering Survey for the upcoming school year and makes the survey available to the schools
- 3) Once the surveys are closed, OCN will tally the requests for each item by month to determine how much and when to have delivers made to the warehouses
- 4) Prior to the monthly ordering process beginning for the upcoming school year, demand order items will be allocated to each sponsor by month using the quantity entered in the corresponding Demand Order Survey
- 5) As orders are opened each month, the sponsors will see the quantities of each demand order item entered into the survey under the Allocated column of the order form. There also may be surplus items and 60 day demand items available on an order form.
- 6) Sponsors will complete their orders and the goods will be shipped. All demand ordered items must be ordered on the monthly order form at 100% of the quantity requested in the Demand Order Survey

Demand Ordering Timeline

- November 30, 2014 Determine commodity items that will be demand ordered for the 2015-2016 school year
- December 31, 2014 Set up the Demand Order Survey and make available to the sponsors
- January 31, 2015 Close the Demand Order Surveys and begin the order planning phase
- March 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015 Place orders to the USDA for brown box items and raw commodities to be shipped to food processors
- o July 10, 2015 Open the order form for August 2015

Demand Order Planning Tools

Demand Ordering Report

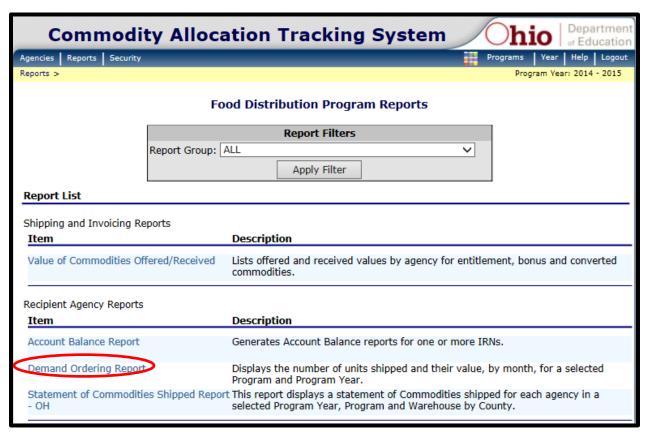
The Demand Ordering Report will be available to all sponsors so they may review the ordering of commodity items for the current and previous school years. This report will show how much of each commodity item was delivered to the sponsor by month.

The sponsor should use these ordered quantities to help project what they will be ordering by month in the upcoming school year.

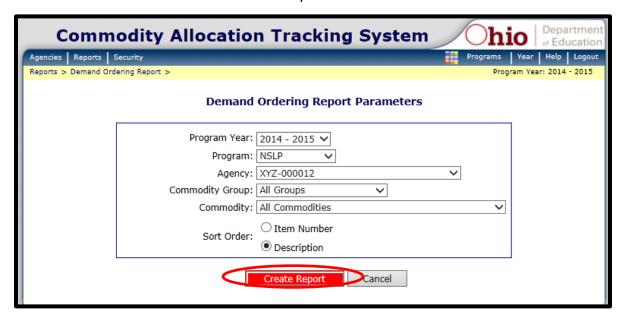
1. After signing into CATS.NET, click "Reports" on the top menu bar to bring up the Reports Menu.



2. Click the link for the Demand Order Report to bring up the Demand Ordering Report Parameters page.



3. Click the link for the Demand Order Report.

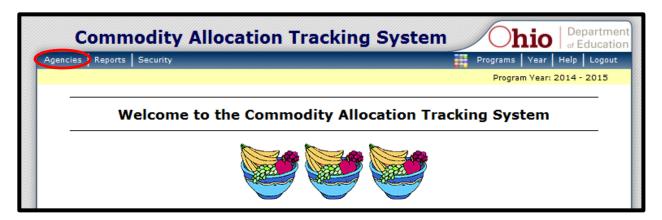


4. Select the desired Program Year and whether you desire the report sorted by Commodity Item Number or Description. All other values should remain unchanged. Click the <Create Report> button to bring up the report.

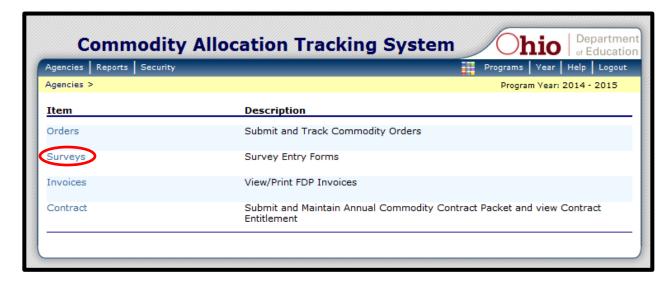
| | Agency: XYZ-0000 | 112 | | | | | | | | | | | | | Program Ye | ar: 2014 - 201 |
|-------------|--|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|----------------|
| Com | nmodity Group: All Groups | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | F | Program: NSL |
| | Commodity: All Commo | odities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| em | | USDA Value | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total Units | T / 1110DA |
| em umber | Description | Per Unit | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Received | Value |
| 152 | Ravioli Cheese Whole Grain | \$10.78 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | \$75.32 |
| 1031 | Rice Brn US#1 Long Parboiled 25# | \$9.45 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | \$85.08 |
| 0434 | Rotini Whole Grain 20 | \$7.78 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | \$31.04 |
| 0330 | Salsa Canned | \$19.88 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | \$79.44 |
| 0427 | Spaghetti Whole Grain 20 | \$8.71 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | \$8.71 |
| 0256 | Strawberry Cups | \$36.25 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | \$580.00 |
| 0394 | Tortilla, Whole Grain, Frozen, 27lb | \$17.20 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | \$154.80 |
| 345 | Turnovers Apple I/W WG 3.95oz. | \$8.16 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | \$8.16 |
| 180 | WGR Berry Apple Crisp Nutrition Bar | \$0.89 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | \$1.7 |
| 377 | WGR Cinnamon Crisp Nutrition Bars | \$0.70 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | \$0.70 |
| 178 | WGR Cocoa Raisin Nutrition Bars | \$2.11 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | \$10.58 |
| | Total Units Received | | 0 | 166 | 522 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 688 | \$16,952.58 |
| 378 | Nutrition Bars | \$2.11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Entering a Demand Order Survey

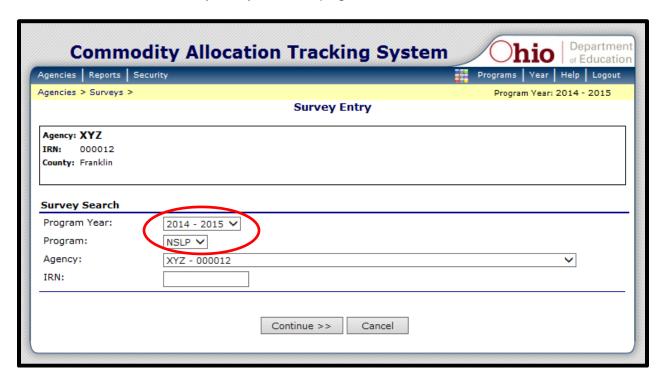
1. After signing into CATS.NET, click "Agencies" on the top menu bar to bring up the Agency Main Menu.



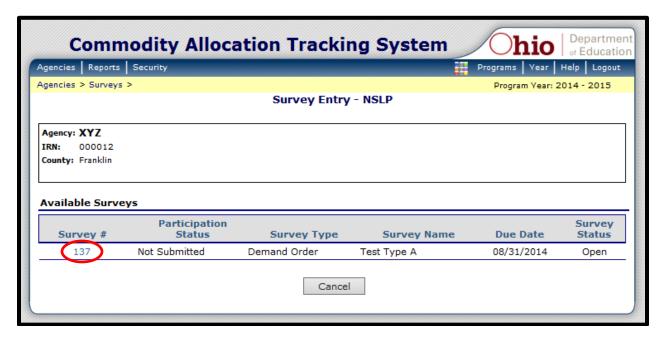
2. Next, select "Surveys" on the Agency main Menu to bring up the Surveys Menu.



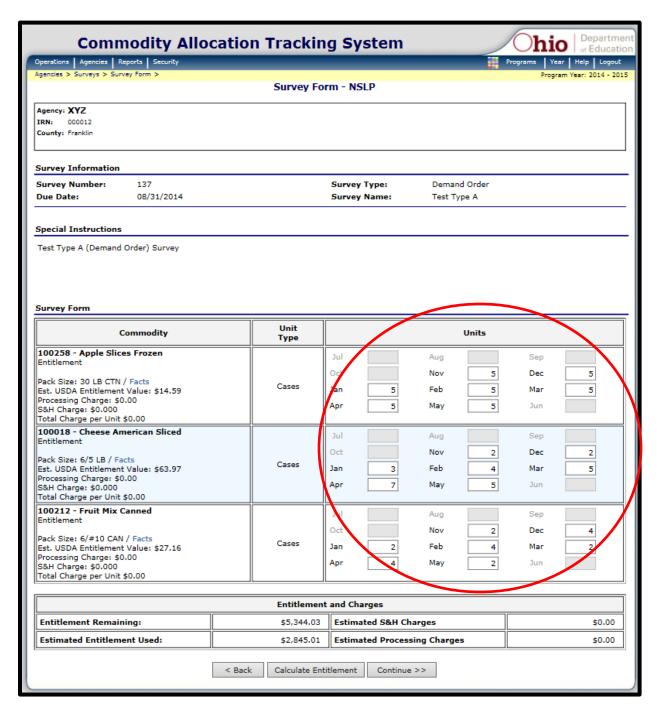
3. Make sure the "Program Year" and "Program" is correct and then click "Continue" to access the Survey Entry – NSLP page.



4. Click the "Survey Number" link for the corresponding demand order survey to be entered. This will bring up the Survey Form – NSLP page.

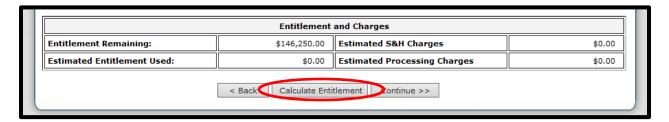


5. On the Survey Form – NSLP page, start entering the quantity of each item for each month ordered.



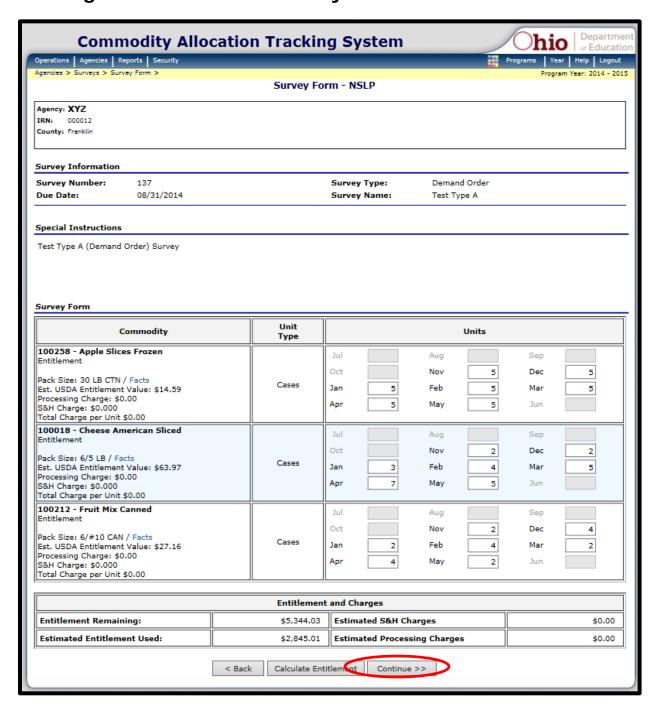
NOTE: If the entry box next to each month is grayed out, the item is not available for delivery that month.

6. At any time during the entry of a demand order survey, the <Calculate Entitlement> button at the bottom of the page may be clicked to calculate Entitlement Remaining, Estimated Entitlement Used on this survey for all items, Estimated Processing charges for "P" items entered on this survey, and Estimated Shipping and Handling Charges for all items ordered on this survey.

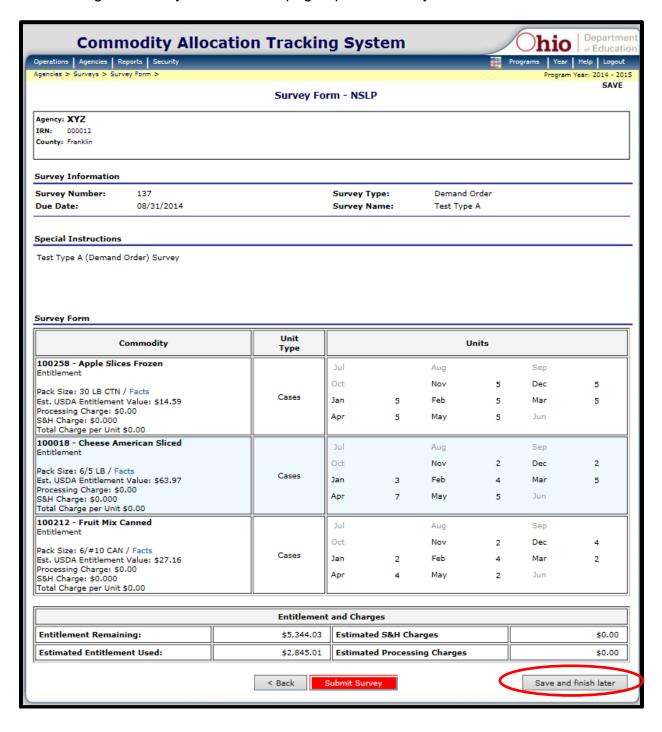


NOTE: Each time a survey is opened the initial Entitlement Remaining is the agency's Beginning Entitlement minus any Direct Diversion Surveys that have been saved, which includes DoD entitlement dollars requested, and any Food Orders that are being shipped directly to an agency's warehouse for the survey school year.

Saving a Demand Order Survey



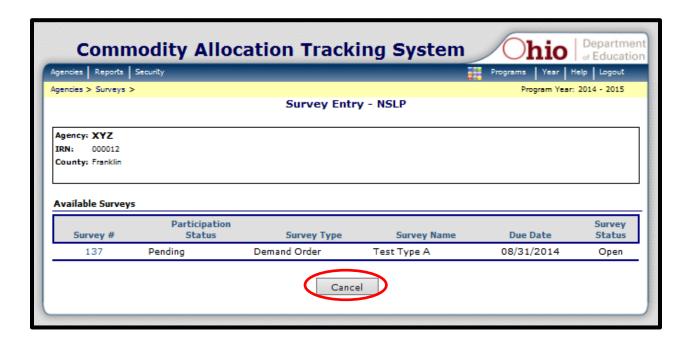
1. Click the Continue>> button at the bottom of the Survey Form – NSLP page to bring the Survey Form - NSLP page up in view only mode for review.



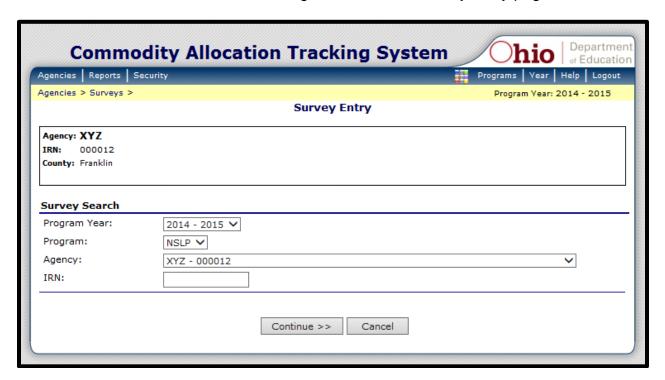
Click the <Save and finish later> button to save the order. The message "The Survey was saved successfully," will appear on the survey save confirmation page. The status of your survey will be changed to "Pending."



3. Click the <Finished> button to return to the Survey Entry – NSLP page.



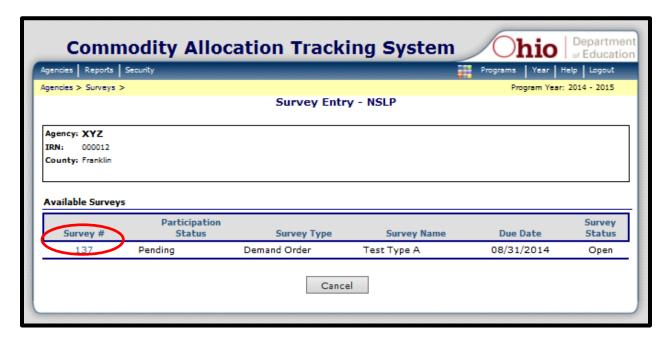
4. Click the <Cancel> button to navigate back to the Survey Entry page.



NOTE: Saving a survey in this manner will allow you to return to the survey at any time to enter additional items by month. Saving the survey in this manner will not trigger an edit that will require a percentage of your Entitlement Remaining to be used.

Modifying Surveys

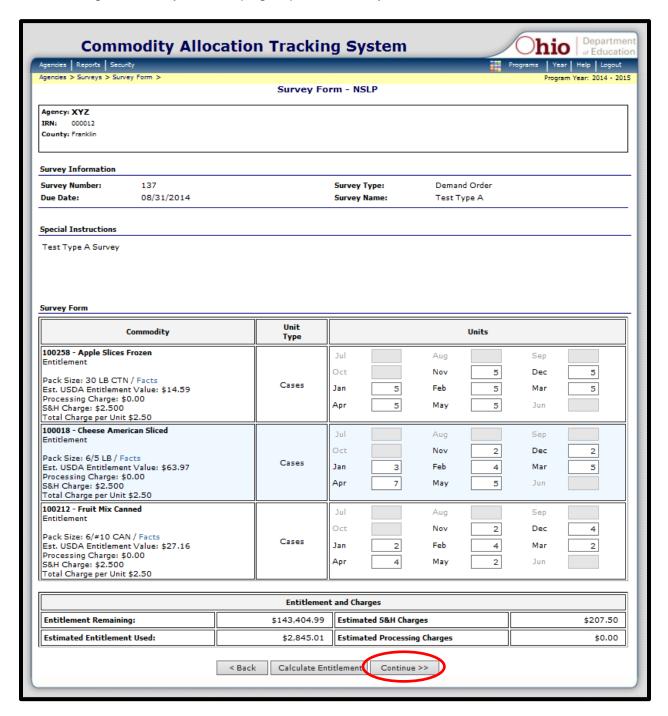
On the Survey Entry - NSLP page, click the "Survey Number" for the corresponding demand order survey to be entered. This will bring up the Survey Form - NSLP page for further changes.



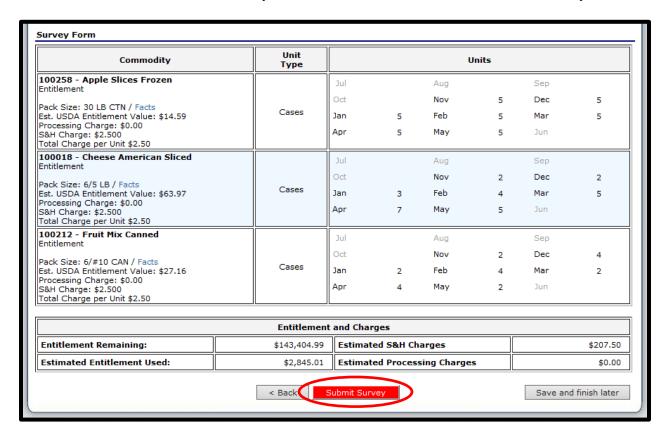
Submitting Surveys

After entering and saving all the items you will be ordering for each delivery month, the Demand Order Survey must be submitted to be finalized.

1. Click the <Continue> button at the bottom of the Survey Form – NSLP page, to bring the survey _NSLP page up in view only review mode.

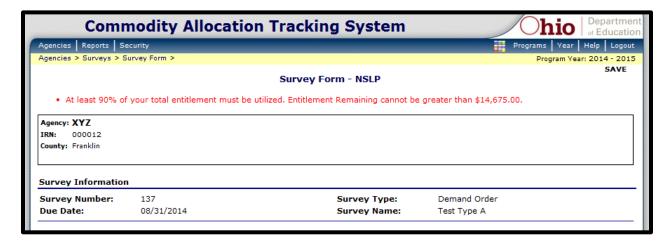


Click the red "Submit Survey" button to finalize the Demand Order Survey.



NOTE: If the Office for Child Nutrition decides that a minimum amount of your Entitlement Remaining has to be spent while completing the Demand Order Survey and it has not been met at the time the survey is submitted, the following error message will appear:

"At least xx% of your Entitlement Remaining must be utilized. Entitlement Remaining cannot be greater than \$xxxx.xx."



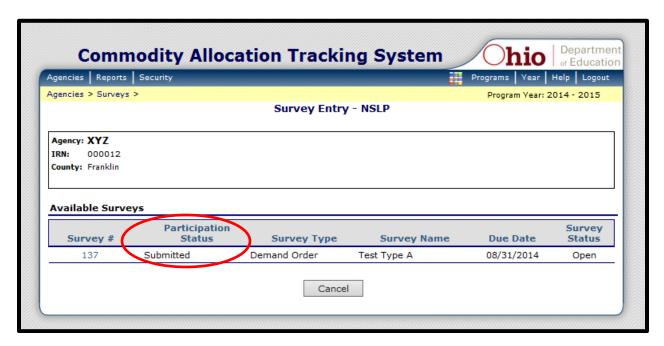
When this occurs, you should save your order by clicking "Save and Finish Later."

NOTE: When you receive this error message, you must go back and modify the Demand Order Survey by adding more items and/or delivery months for items to your survey to "spend" the minimum amount.

3. Click the <Finished> button to access the Survey Entry – NSLP page.



4. The "Participation Status" will now display as "Submitted" indicating that the survey has been successfully submitted.

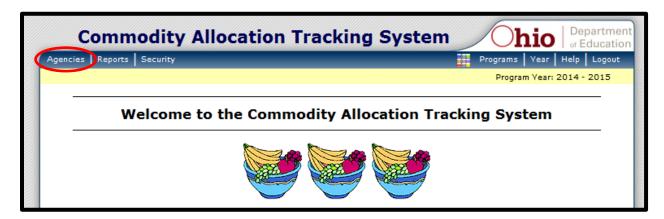


The < Back Button

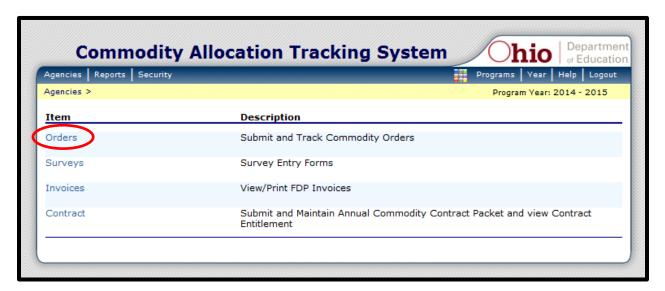
Anytime while entering a Demand Order Survey, the <Back> button can be clicked to exit the survey without saving any changes. The survey will appear as it did when it was opened as a new survey or as saved during the last survey modification.

Entering the Agency Order

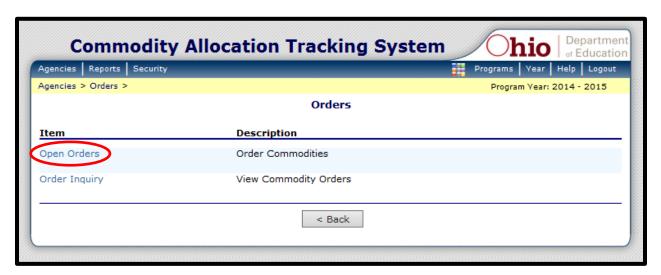
1. After signing into CATS.NET, click "Agencies" on the top menu bar to bring up the Agency Main Menu.



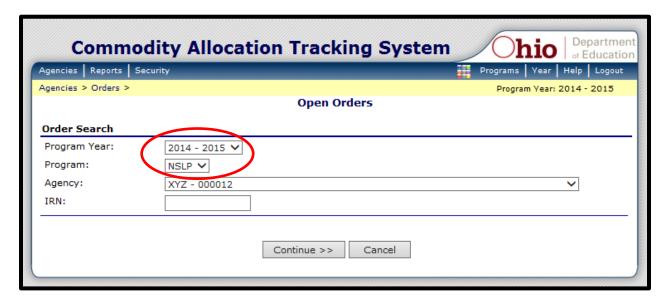
2. Click "Orders" on the Agency Main Menu to bring up the Orders Menu.



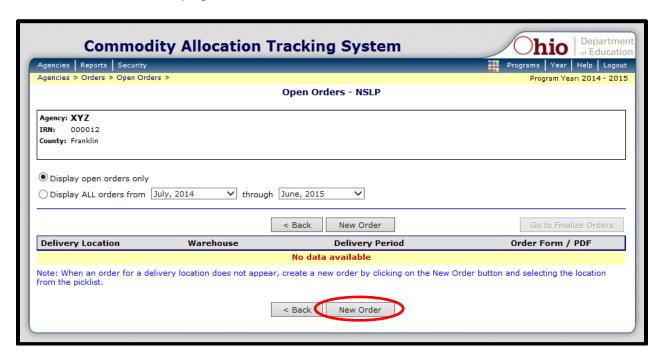
3. Click "Open Orders."



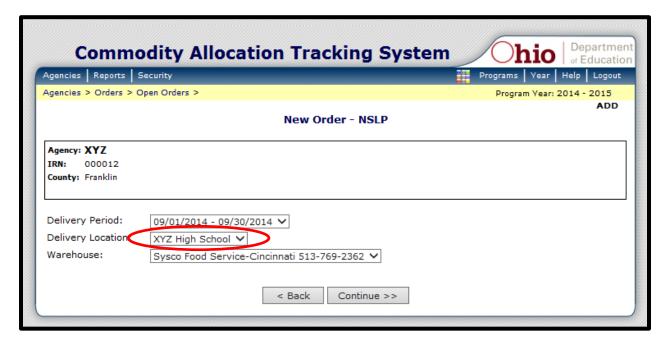
4. Make sure the "Program Year" and "Program" are correct and then click "Continue."



5. Click "New Order" to start a new order for a delivery location. This will bring up the New Order – NSLP page.



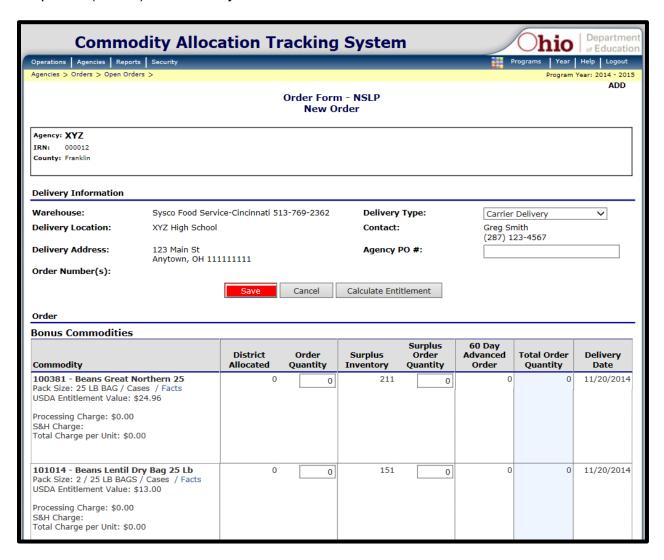
 On the New Order – NSLP page, select the delivery location that the order will be for by clicking on the "Delivery Location" drop down list. Then click "Continue" to bring up the new order.



NOTE: If your agency has only one delivery location, you may click "Continue" to bring up the NSLP Order Form – New Order page.

NOTE: If an order already exists for the selected delivery location you will receive the following error message after clicking "Continue" – "An open order already exists for the selected Delivery Location / Warehouse / Delivery Period." If this occurs, click the "Back" button to return to the Open Orders – NSLP page.

7. Begin entering the quantity of each item that you want to order for the given delivery period (month) and delivery location.



There are three types of items that may be ordered: Allocated, Surplus, and 60 Day Demand.

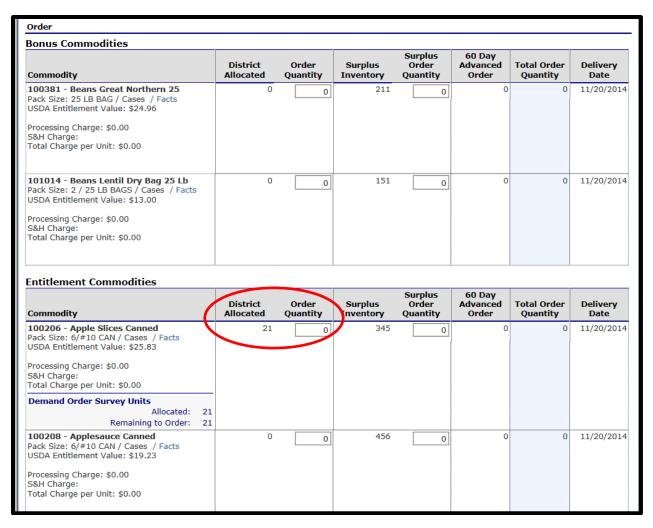
- The Allocated items are the items that were entered when you completed the corresponding Demand Order Survey.
- The Surplus items are miscellaneous items that are showing excess inventory in our warehouse and we are offering these items out on a firstcome-first-serve basis.

 The 60 Day Demand items are items that are ordered now but will not be delivered until the month after the delivery month currently being ordered for (e.g. If the order is for September, the 60 Day Demand items will be delivered in October.)

Any combination of these three item types may appear on an order form.

Entering Allocated Item Quantities

 Under the "District Allocated" column, you will see the number of cases that were entered for each item for the current delivery month when you completed the Demand Order Survey.



Enter the quantity of the item you want to order in the corresponding "Order Quantity" field by delivery date.

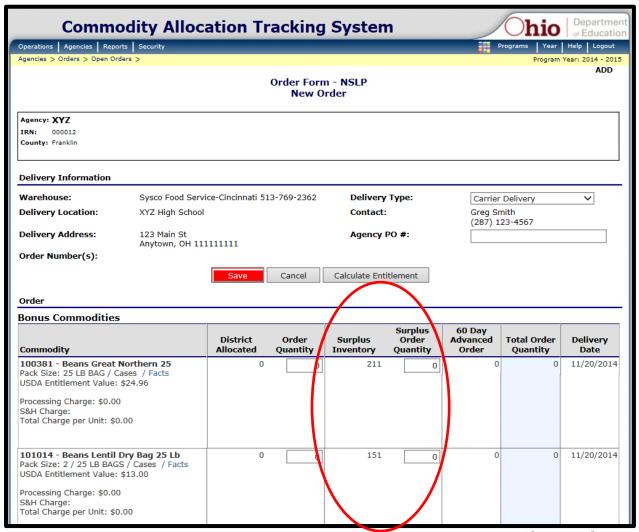
NOTE: You MUST order all of the units you entered for an item on the Demand Order Survey. CATS.net allows you to order those units across delivery locations and delivery

dates.

o For Items that were allocated from the Demand Order Survey, you will see a blue shaded box titled "Demand Order Survey Units" under the Commodity information for that item. This box contains the Allocated Quantity which is the quantity taken directly from your Demand Order Survey and the Remaining to Order quantity which is the quantity that still must be ordered for that commodity item.

| Entitlement Commodities | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Commodity | District Allocated | Order Quantity | Surplus Inventory | Surplus Order Quantity | 60 Day Advanced Order | Total Order Quantity | Delivery Date |
| 100206 - Apple Slices Canned Pack Size: 6/#10 CAN / Cases / Facts USDA Entitlement Value: \$25.83 | 21 | 18 | 345 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 11/20/2014 |
| Processing Charge: \$0.00 S&H Charge: Total Charge per Unit: \$0.00 | | | | | | | |
| Demand Order Survey Units Allocated: 21 Remaining to Order: 3 | | | | | | | |

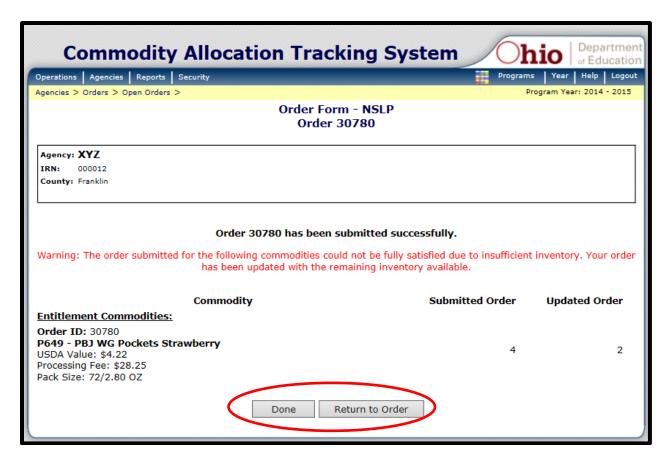
Entering Surplus Items



 When entering a surplus item, enter the quantity in the corresponding "Surplus Order Quantity" field by delivery date

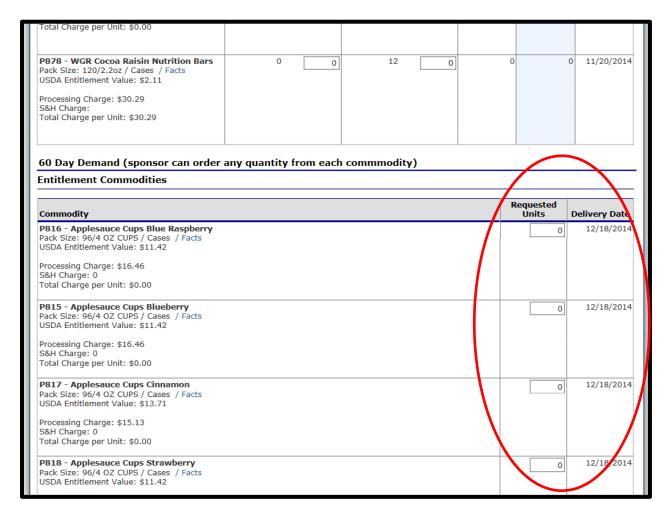
NOTE: Surplus quantities are ordered first come; first serve so after entering a surplus item's order quantity, click the <Save> button at the bottom of the order form to reserve your quantity. If you wait until a later time to save your order, the quantity you entered may not be available and you will receive the following message on a new error page:

Warning: The order submitted for the following commodities could not be fully satisfied due to insufficient inventory. Your order has been updated with the remaining inventory available.



2. Click the <Done> button to complete the order save or click the <Return to order> button to return to the order for further entry or updates.

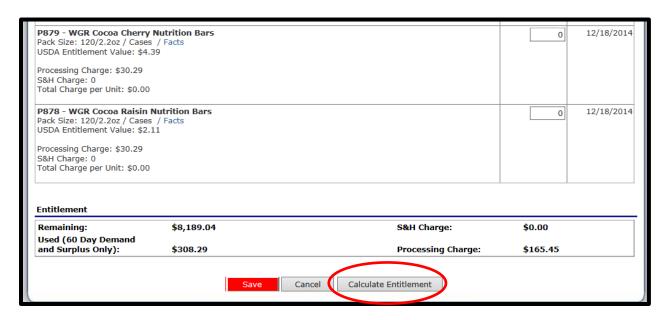
Entering 60 Day Items



When entering a 60 day demand item, enter the quantity in the corresponding "Requested Units" field by delivery date.

NOTE: there is no limit to the quantity ordered for each item as long as you have remaining entitlement dollars and storage space for the items ordered

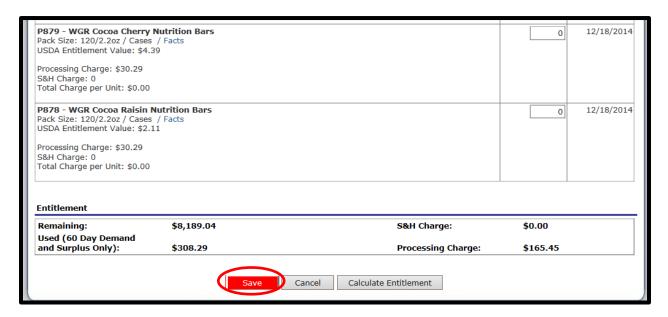
Calculate Entitlement



At any time during the entry of an order, the <Calculate Entitlement> button at the top or bottom of the page may be clicked to calculate remaining entitlement, entitlement spent on this order for surplus and 60 day demand items, processing charges for "P" items ordered, and shipping and handling charges.

NOTE: Items that were allocated to an agency from a Demand Order Survey have already been charged against the agency's entitlement and will not be included in the calculation for the open order

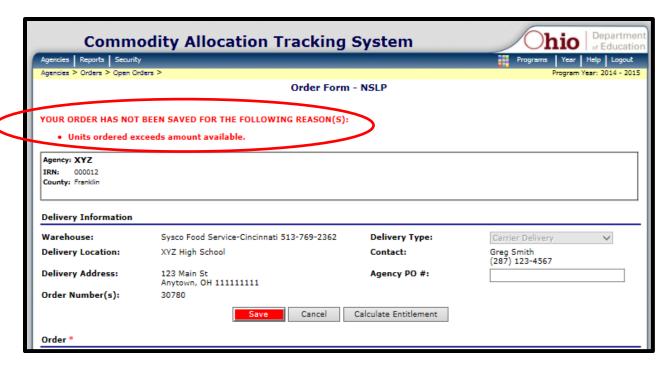
Saving the Order



While entering an order, the order can be saved by clicking the red <Save> button at the top or bottom of the order form. The save button can be clicked and the order saved at any time. This will allow an agency to enter a partial order and come back later to complete the order. If the save is successful, the "The combined order was saved successfully" message page will appear. Click the <Finished> button to return to the Open Orders – NSLP page or the < Edit button to update the order just saved:



NOTE: When an order is saved, edits take place to ensure that the agency has not ordered more units than they have had allocated to them, that they have not ordered more surplus units than are available, and that they have enough entitlement dollars remaining for the ordered items (surplus and 60 day demand items only).

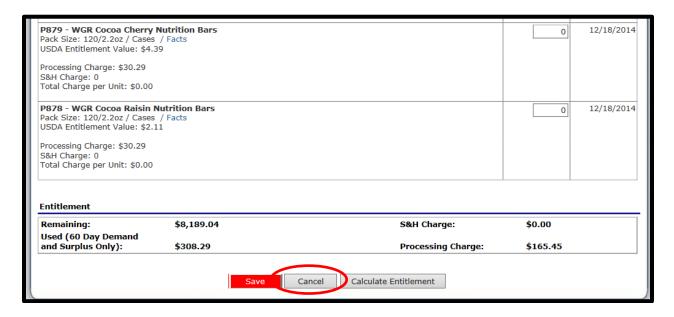


| Commodity | District Allocated | Order Quantity | Surplus Inventory | Surplus Order Quantity | 60 Day Advanced Order | Total Order Quantity | Delivery Date |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 100206 - Apple Slices Canned Pack Size: 6/#10 CAN / Cases / Facts USDA Entitlement Value: \$25.83 Processing Charge: \$0.00 S&H Charge: Total Charge per Unit: \$0.00 | 21 (| 22 | 345 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 11/20/201 |
| Demand Order Survey Units Allocated: 21 Remaining to Order: 0 | | | | | | | |

Whenever any of the above conditions are not properly met and an error message is returned to the page, the order <u>HAS NOT</u> been saved. If the error is specific to an entry made for a commodity item, the entry box will be outlined in red. Correct the error and click the save button again.

NOTE: CATS.NET has a time-out of approximately 20 minutes. If you do not save an order and walk away from the computer for over 20 minutes, the order will time out and you will <u>lose</u> any data that was entered!

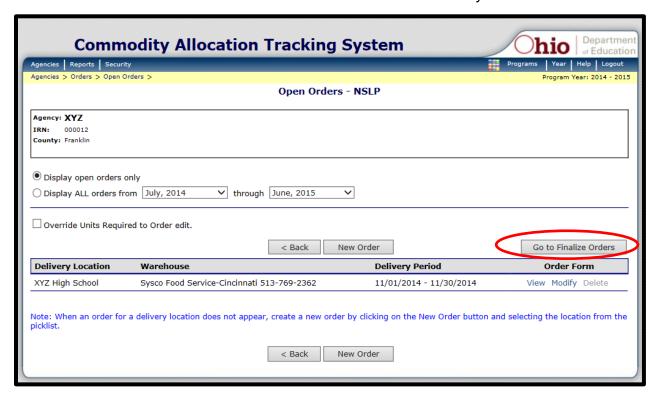
The <Cancel> Button



Anytime while entering an order, the <Cancel> button can be clicked exit the order without saving any changes. The order will appear as it did when it was opened as a new order or modified

Finalizing Open Orders

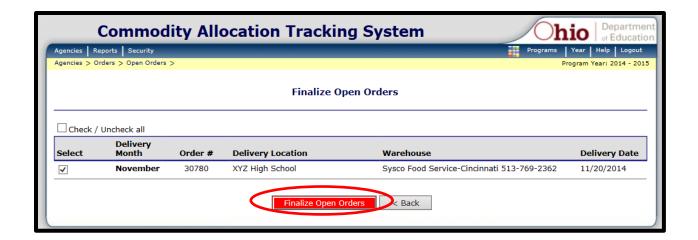
After entering and saving all orders for the delivery month, the orders must be finalized. This is new to demand ordering as an edit must be made across all delivery locations that ensures that all items allocated from the demand order survey are 100% ordered.



 Click the <Go to Finalize Orders> button on the Open Orders – NSLP page to bring up the Finalize Open Orders page



2. Click the "Select" checkbox to finalize each open order for the delivery month. The "Check / Uncheck all" checkbox may also be clicked to finalize multiple open orders.



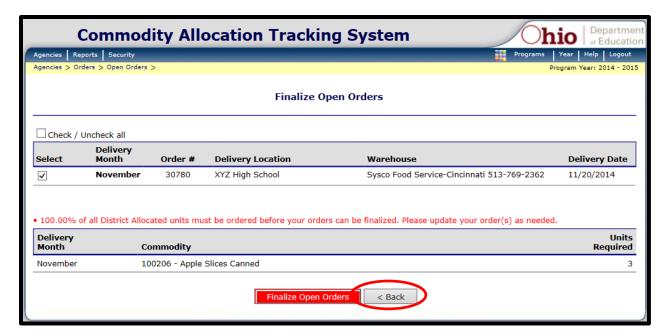
3. Click the red <Finalize Open Orders> button at the bottom of the page to complete the process. If successful, the "The selected orders have been successfully finalized" message page will appear:



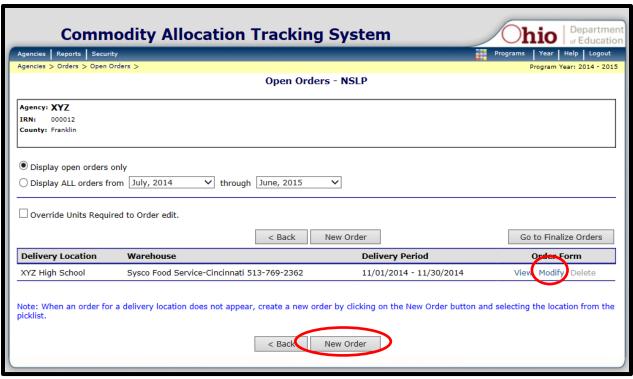
4. Click the <Finished> button to return to the Open Order – NSLP page.

NOTE: If 100% of the items entered on the corresponding delivery month from the Demand Order Survey have not been ordered the following error message will appear:

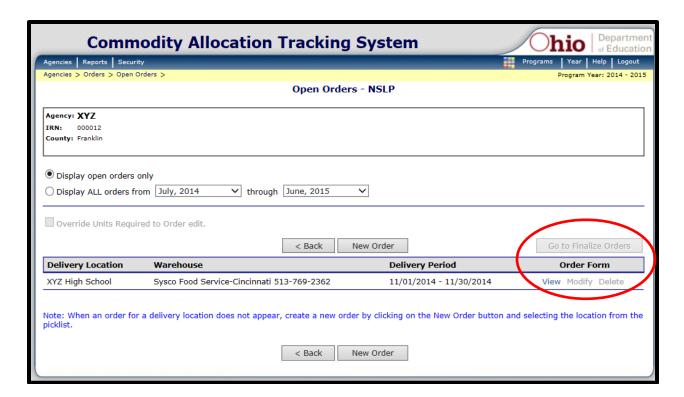
100% of all District Allocated units must be ordered before your orders can be finalized. Please update your order(s) as needed



5. Click the < Back button to bring up the Open Order – NSLP page. You may then click the "Modify" link to modify an existing order or click the <New Order> button to create an order for a delivery location not yet entered.



Once finalized, all finalized orders on the Open Order – NSLP page will be accessible in view only format and the <Go to Finalize Orders> button disabled:



After finalizing all of your open orders you can still add new orders for any delivery location that an order was not previously placed for. On the Open Orders – NSLA page click the <New Order> button to start a new order for a deliver location.

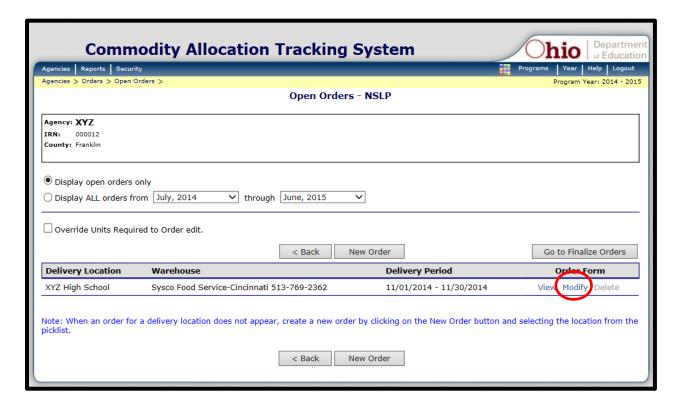
Once you have completed entering the new orders, you must finalize them

NOTE: Once you have initially finalized your orders, by rule, 100% of your demand order items have been entered and your finalized orders are in view only mode. Therefor if you do create a new order after finalizing the original orders, only surplus or 60 day demand items may be entered without a resulting error message.

NOTE: Once you have finalized all of your orders, and you need to correct an entry, you must contact OCN. An OCN staff member will then "Un-finalize" all of you orders. You may then go back into any of your orders and make the appropriate corrections.

o Once you have completed the corrections, you must finalize them

Modifying Orders



1. On the Open Order – NSLP page, click the "Modify" link next to an existing order to bring up the order for further changes