

# Node Descriptor Element

A `node` element defines an IceGrid node. The servers that the node is responsible for managing are described in child elements.

This element may only appear as a child of an [application](#) element. Multiple `node` elements having the same name may appear in an application. Their contents are merged and the last definition of `load-factor` has precedence.

The following attributes are supported:

Attribute	Description	Required
load-factor	A floating point value defining the factor that is multiplied with the node's load average. The load average is used by the adaptive <a href="#">load balancing</a> policy to figure out which node is the least loaded. The default is 1.0 on Unix platforms and 1/NCPUS on Windows (where NCPUS is the number of CPUs in the node's computer). Note that, if Unix and Windows machines are part of a <a href="#">replica group</a> , the Unix and Windows figures are not directly comparable, but the registry still makes an attempt to pick the least-loaded node.	No
name	The name must be unique among all nodes in the registry. Within the node, child elements can refer to its name using the <a href="#">reserved variable</a> <code>\${node}</code> . An <code>icegridnode</code> process representing this node must be started on the desired computer and its configuration property <code>IceGrid.Node.Name</code> must match this attribute.	Yes

Here is an example to demonstrate the use of this element:

XML
<pre>&lt;node name="Node1" load-factor="2.0"&gt;   &lt;description&gt;A description of this node.&lt;/description&gt;   &lt;server id="Server1" ...&gt;     &lt;property name="NodeName" value="\${node}" /&gt;     ...   &lt;/server&gt; &lt;/node&gt;</pre>

See Also

- [Application Descriptor Element](#)
- [Load Balancing](#)
- [Object Adapter Replication](#)
- [icegridnode](#)