

saml-md-entitydescriptor

All metadata elements for an entity (identity provider or service provider) are contained in an `<EntityDescriptor>` element, as defined in the `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata` namespace. Each `<EntityDescriptor>` element must include an `entityID` XML attribute with a value that is globally unique. The `entityID`, therefore, must have the syntax of a URL that is rooted in the legally responsible organization's DNS domain. (Note that while the `entityID` must have the syntax of a URL, it is not required that it be the locator of an actual resource. If you do make your entity ID a resolvable web link, the link should point to a web page describing your service and mention that the location is the identifier for the service.)

Example:

```
<EntityDescriptor entityID="https://example.edu/idp">

  <!-- All metadata elements for
https://example.edu/idp -->

</EntityDescriptor>
```

For more information about the use of `entityID` in InCommon metadata, see [Entity ID](#).

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