

GENERIC · CHASSIS

C0306

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

C0306

Ride Height Sensor Front Left

C0306 indicates that the body control module or suspension control module has detected a fault in the front left ride height sensor circuit, which measures the distance between the axle and the chassis. The computer compares the sensor's voltage signal against expected values and sets this code when the signal is out of range, erratic, or missing entirely.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Chassis	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Brakes, steering and suspension

Symptoms you may notice

- Suspension warning light illuminated on the dashboard
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- Ride height stuck at one level or unable to adjust
- Uneven vehicle stance, with one corner sitting higher or lower
- Harsh or stiff ride quality because the system defaults to a fail-safe mode
- Message on the driver information center indicating suspension fault or limited speed

Common causes, most likely first

- Damaged or corroded ride height sensor linkage or arm
- Faulty front left ride height sensor
- Wiring harness damage, such as open or short circuits, between the sensor and the control module
- Corroded or loose electrical connector at the sensor or module
- Failed suspension control module or body control module
- Mechanical binding or improper suspension component installation affecting sensor range

How to diagnose and fix it

- Inspect the front left ride height sensor and its linkage for physical damage, corrosion, or binding
- Check the sensor connector and wiring for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins
- Measure reference voltage and ground at the sensor connector with the key on
- Backprobe the sensor signal wire and compare voltage through the full suspension travel to verify smooth operation
- Check for technical service bulletins or software updates for the suspension control module
- Replace the front left ride height sensor if testing confirms it is faulty
- Clear the code and perform a suspension system calibration or relearn procedure if required



What the ride height sensor code hides

- A ride height sensor that has simply popped off its mounting ball stud will set this code and mimic a failed sensor, so always check the linkage before condemning the part.
- After replacing a ride height sensor, many vehicles require a suspension height calibration or relearn with a scan tool, otherwise the code may return immediately.
- Voltage drop testing the ground circuit is often overlooked; a poor ground can skew the sensor signal and set C0306 without any visible wiring damage.
- This code can be set by a weak battery or charging system issue that causes low voltage during module self-test, so verify battery condition before replacing parts.
- On some vehicles, aftermarket suspension modifications or incorrect ride height settings can push the sensor out of its expected range and trigger this code.

Can I keep driving with C0306?

The vehicle remains drivable in most cases, but the suspension may default to a stiff or fixed height, reducing comfort and potentially affecting handling. Avoid high-speed driving and heavy loads until the fault is repaired, and address it promptly to prevent uneven tire wear or suspension damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Jack and jack stands or a lift
- Basic hand tools for trim and connector access
- Vehicle-specific service information for wiring diagrams and calibration procedures

Reading C0306

C	Chassis: brakes, steering and suspension.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
3	Brakes, steering and suspension.
06	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0305 Inlet Valve Rear Left Performance · **C0307** Inlet Valve Rear Right Performance · **C0308** Ride Height Sensor Front Right · **C0310** Ride Height Sensor Rear Left



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Radiator Fan Relay Circuit Works](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/c0306/>

