

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P04C9

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P04C9

Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Performance/Stuck Off

P04C9 is a generic body code indicating that the fuel fill door open request sensor or switch is not reporting the expected change of state when the door is opened or closed. The powertrain control module (PCM) or body control module (BCM) monitors the switch circuit and sets this code when the signal remains stuck off, meaning the module never sees the door-open request even though the door is physically opened.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Low

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Auxiliary emission controls

Symptoms you may notice

- The fuel fill door may not release or open when the release button or lever is operated.
- A warning light or message on the instrument cluster indicating a fuel door or body system fault.
- The fuel door may appear closed but the vehicle does not recognize it as open for refueling procedures.
- Remote or electronic fuel door release may be inoperative.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the door can still be opened manually.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Failed fuel fill door open request sensor or switch (stuck open or internally shorted).
- 2 Damaged, disconnected, or corroded electrical connector at the fuel door switch or sensor.
- 3 Broken or chafed wiring in the circuit between the switch and the control module.
- 4 Faulty body control module (BCM) or PCM not recognizing the switch input.
- 5 Mechanical binding or misalignment of the fuel door preventing the switch from actuating.
- 6 Water intrusion or contamination in the switch or connector causing an open circuit.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the fuel fill door opens and closes smoothly and that the switch is mechanically actuated by the door.
- 2 Inspect the switch and its connector for corrosion, loose pins, or physical damage.
- 3 Disconnect the switch and check for continuity or resistance change when the door is opened and closed, comparing to manufacturer specifications.
- 4 Check the wiring harness between the switch and the control module for opens, shorts, or chafing.
- 5 Use a scan tool to monitor the fuel door switch parameter while manually operating the door to confirm the signal reaches the module.
- 6 If the switch tests good and wiring is intact, check for a software update or known issues with the control module.
- 7 Replace the faulty switch, repair wiring, or reprogram/replace the control module as needed, then clear codes and verify the fix.

Fuel door switch diagnostics you might overlook

- A stuck-off switch can be caused by a simple mechanical issue like a broken actuator arm or a door that does not fully depress the switch, so always check door operation first.
- The code may set intermittently if the switch is contaminated with dirt or moisture, so cleaning and dielectric grease can sometimes resolve it without parts replacement.
- Some vehicles use a hall-effect sensor rather than a mechanical switch, and testing procedures differ; consult the specific service information for the sensor type.
- A failed fuel door switch can prevent the vehicle from entering a refueling mode or may cause a false 'door open' message on the driver information center.
- Do not replace the control module until you have verified power, ground, and signal integrity at the switch connector, as wiring faults are common.

Can I keep driving with P04C9?

This code does not affect engine operation or safety, so you can continue driving. However, if the fuel door cannot be opened, you may be unable to refuel, so address the issue promptly to avoid running out of fuel.

Tools that help

- Scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wire probe set
- Service information for wiring diagrams and switch specifications
- Trim removal tools for accessing the switch



Reading P04C9

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 4** Auxiliary emission controls.
- C9** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P04C8 Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit · **P04CA** Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit Low · **P04CB** Fuel Fill Door Open Request Sensor/Switch Circuit High · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Disc Brake Trainer: How Car Brakes Stop a Wheel](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p04c9/>

