

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P060D

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P060D

Internal Control Module Accelerator Pedal Position Performance

P060D is a generic powertrain code indicating that the engine control module (ECM) has detected an internal performance fault within its own accelerator pedal position (APP) signal processing circuitry. The ECM compares redundant APP sensor readings and internal calculations, and when the correlation or self-test falls outside the manufacturer's acceptable range, it stores this code and typically illuminates the check engine light.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Computer and output circuits

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light (malfunction indicator lamp) on the dashboard.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally.
- Reduced engine power or limp mode, where the throttle response becomes sluggish or limited.
- Inconsistent or delayed acceleration when pressing the accelerator pedal.
- Possible stalling or difficulty maintaining speed on inclines.
- In rare cases, the engine may enter a default idle mode and refuse to rev.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty accelerator pedal position sensor or its wiring, causing erratic signals to the ECM.
- 2 Corroded, loose, or damaged electrical connectors at the APP sensor or ECM.
- 3 Internal failure within the ECM's APP signal processing circuit, such as a degraded solder joint or faulty component.
- 4 Software corruption or outdated calibration in the ECM that affects APP signal interpretation.
- 5 Voltage supply issues, including a weak battery or poor grounds, that disrupt the reference voltage to the APP sensor.
- 6 Aftermarket electronic throttle controllers or piggyback modules interfering with APP signals.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Perform a visual inspection of the APP sensor, its connector, and the wiring harness for damage, corrosion, or loose pins.
- 2 Use a scan tool to check for other stored codes and freeze-frame data, then clear codes and test-drive to see if P060D returns.
- 3 Measure reference voltage and signal voltage at the APP sensor connector with a multimeter, comparing against manufacturer specifications.
- 4 Check the ECM ground connections and battery voltage under load to rule out supply issues.
- 5 If the APP sensor and wiring test good, reflash or update the ECM software if a technical service bulletin applies.
- 6 Substitute a known-good APP sensor and retest to confirm whether the fault lies in the sensor or the ECM.
- 7 If all external checks pass, diagnose the ECM internally or replace and reprogram it as a last resort.

What P060D really tells you about the ECM

- P060D often sets intermittently due to a marginal APP sensor that only misbehaves under certain temperature or vibration conditions, so a static test may not reveal the fault.
- A weak or failing battery can cause this code by dropping voltage during cranking, leading the ECM to flag an internal performance error even though the ECM itself is fine.
- Aftermarket throttle controllers or pedal boosters are a common culprit because they alter the APP signal in ways the ECM's self-tests are not designed to accept.
- The code does not always mean the ECM is defective; many cases are resolved by repairing chafed wiring or replacing the APP sensor, so avoid condemning the ECM prematurely.
- Some vehicles require a relearn or calibration procedure after APP sensor or ECM replacement, and skipping it can cause P060D to reset immediately.

Can I keep driving with P060D?

If the vehicle drives normally with only the check engine light on, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid aggressive acceleration or heavy loads. If the vehicle enters limp mode or exhibits severe power loss, stop driving and have it towed to prevent unsafe situations.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and freeze-frame capability
- Digital multimeter for voltage and resistance measurements
- Wiring diagram and manufacturer service information
- Basic hand tools for connector and sensor access
- Oscilloscope for advanced signal analysis (optional but helpful)



Reading P060D

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 6** Computer and output circuits.
- 0D** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P060E Internal Control Module Throttle Position Performance · **P2122** Accelerator Pedal Position Sensor D Circuit Low · **P2127** Accelerator Pedal Position Sensor E Circuit Low · **P2135** Throttle/Pedal Position Sensor A/B Voltage Correlation · **P2138** Throttle/Pedal Position Sensor D/E Voltage Correlation

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Coolant Temperature Sensor Works](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p060d/>

