

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0D4B

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0D4B

Battery Charger 14 Volt Output Current Sensor Circuit Intermittent/Erratic

P0D4B indicates that the battery charger's 14-volt output current sensor circuit is reporting an intermittent or erratic signal to the control module. The computer detects this when the current sensor's voltage or current readings fluctuate outside expected limits or drop out momentarily, often due to wiring or sensor issues.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Hybrid propulsion

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or battery charger warning light
- Inconsistent or failed battery charging, leading to a dead battery
- Charging system warning message on the dashboard
- Electrical accessories behaving erratically or dimming
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Loose, corroded, or damaged wiring or connectors at the current sensor
- 2 Faulty 14-volt output current sensor
- 3 Poor ground connection for the sensor or charging system
- 4 Interference or signal noise on the sensor circuit
- 5 Internal failure in the battery charger control module
- 6 Battery or charging system voltage instability affecting sensor readings

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect and clean the current sensor connector and terminals for corrosion or looseness
- 2 Check the sensor wiring harness for chafing, breaks, or loose pins
- 3 Verify the sensor ground circuit for resistance and tightness
- 4 Test the current sensor output signal with a multimeter or oscilloscope
- 5 Compare sensor readings with actual charging current using a clamp meter
- 6 Replace the current sensor if faulty
- 7 Repair or replace the battery charger control module if the sensor and wiring are good



Intermittent sensor faults often misdiagnosed

- A loose ground connection at the charger or sensor can cause erratic readings that mimic a failed sensor.
- The code may set due to a weak battery or alternator, so always load-test the battery and check charging voltage first.
- Intermittent faults often leave no pending codes, so a wiggle test of the harness while monitoring live data is crucial.
- Aftermarket accessories or poor electrical repairs near the charging system can introduce signal noise and set this code.
- The sensor itself rarely fails; wiring and connector issues are far more common causes.

Can I keep driving with P0D4B?

If the warning light is on but the vehicle drives normally, you can drive short distances, but avoid relying on the charging system for long trips. If the battery is draining or charging system warnings appear, stop driving and seek service to prevent a breakdown.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Digital multimeter
- Clamp meter
- Oscilloscope
- Wire terminal cleaning tools
- Electrical contact cleaner

Reading P0D4B

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
D	Hybrid propulsion.
4B	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0562 System Voltage Low · **P0563** System Voltage High · **P0A0D** High Voltage System Interlock Circuit A High · **P0D4A** Battery Charger 14 Volt Output Current Sensor Circuit High · **P0D4C** Battery Charger Hybrid/EV Battery Output Voltage Sensor Circ



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Six-Speed Manual Gearbox Works](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0d4b/>

