

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0083

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0083

Vehicle Communication Bus F + Low

U0083 is a generic network communication code indicating that the vehicle's communication bus, designated as Bus F, has a low voltage condition on its data line. The controlling module detected that the bus voltage stayed below the expected threshold for a calibrated period, which prevents normal message exchange between modules on that network.

SYSTEM

Network

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Network wiring and bus faults

Symptoms you may notice

- Multiple warning lights illuminated simultaneously, often including the check engine light, ABS, and airbag lamps
- Intermittent or complete failure of dashboard gauges, climate controls, or infotainment functions
- The engine may start and run normally, or may crank without starting depending on which modules are isolated
- No symptoms besides the warning light when the fault is intermittent and the bus recovers quickly
- Modules may report unrelated communication codes or show 'not ready' status during a scan
- Electrical accessories on the affected bus may behave erratically or stop responding altogether

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A short to ground on the Bus F data line, often from chafed wiring against a metal bracket or body seam
- 2 Corroded or water-intruded connector pins at a module or inline harness connector on the Bus F network
- 3 A failed module on the Bus F network that is pulling the data line voltage low internally
- 4 Damaged or pinched wiring harness caused by collision repair, rodent damage, or routing near a hot or moving component
- 5 Poor ground connection for one of the modules on the Bus F network, causing reference voltage to sag
- 6 A faulty termination resistor or network bias component inside a module that alters bus voltage levels



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect a scan tool and record all stored codes from every module to identify which modules are offline and confirm Bus F is the affected network
- 2 Obtain the factory wiring diagram for the specific vehicle and locate the Bus F topology, including all modules, splices, and connectors on that bus
- 3 Measure voltage on the Bus F data line at the diagnostic connector with the key on and compare against the manufacturer's specified range
- 4 Perform a resistance check from the data line to ground with the battery disconnected to look for a short to ground
- 5 Visually inspect the harness along its full route for chafing, pinches, corrosion, or water intrusion, especially at connectors and pass-through points
- 6 Disconnect modules one at a time from the Bus F network and recheck bus voltage to isolate a module that is pulling the line low
- 7 Repair the faulty wiring, connector, or module and clear codes, then verify that all modules on Bus F communicate reliably

What a low bus voltage really tells you

- A low voltage on a communication bus is almost always a wiring fault rather than a failed module, so resistance and voltage checks along the harness should come before any module replacement.
- Water intrusion at a connector on the Bus F network can cause intermittent low voltage that only appears in damp weather, which is why the code may not reset after clearing until conditions repeat.
- Some vehicles use the same physical wire for multiple bus segments through a gateway module, so a fault on Bus F can produce codes on other buses that mislead you away from the real short.
- A module that has lost its ground connection can pull the bus line low even though the module itself is healthy, so ground integrity at every module on the network deserves a check.
- Aftermarket accessories tapped into the wiring near a Bus F module are a commonly overlooked cause of low bus voltage, particularly alarms, remote starters, and dash cameras.

Can I keep driving with U0083?

If the vehicle starts and runs normally with only warning lights on, you can drive it cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid long trips because the fault can worsen and disable safety systems. If the engine will not start or multiple safety systems are inoperative, do not drive and have the vehicle towed.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with module-level communication capability
- Digital multimeter with resistance and voltage measurement
- Factory service information with wiring diagrams for the specific vehicle
- Back probe pins and jumper wires for connector testing
- Battery disconnect tool and terminal cleaner

Reading U0083

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 0** Network wiring and bus faults.
- 83** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0001 Loss of Bus Communication · **U0082** Vehicle Communication Bus F + Open · **U0084** Vehicle Communication Bus F + High · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Helicopter Flies: Rotor and Tail in X-Ray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0083/>

