

GENERIC · NETWORK

U011D

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U011D

Lost Communication With All Wheel Drive Control Module

U011D means the vehicle's main computer has lost communication with the all-wheel-drive control module over the controller area network (CAN) bus. The computer detects that it is no longer receiving the periodic messages that the all-wheel-drive module normally broadcasts, which can disable the all-wheel-drive system and trigger a warning light.

SYSTEM Network	CODE TYPE Generic (all makes)	SEVERITY Medium	FIX DIFFICULTY Intermediate	AREA Lost communication with a control module
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Symptoms you may notice

- All-wheel-drive or four-wheel-drive warning light illuminated on the dashboard
- The vehicle may default to front-wheel drive or rear-wheel drive only, with reduced traction in slippery conditions
- A message such as 'AWD system disabled' or 'Service AWD' displayed in the driver information center
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally in most conditions
- Other unrelated warning lights may appear if the lost module shares a communication bus with other systems
- In some cases, the vehicle may enter a limp mode or limit power to protect the drivetrain

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the all-wheel-drive control module
- 2 Blown fuse or poor power or ground connection to the all-wheel-drive control module
- 3 Failed all-wheel-drive control module itself
- 4 CAN bus communication fault, such as a shorted or open data line between the module and the network
- 5 Water intrusion or physical damage to the module or its connectors
- 6 Low battery voltage or charging system fault causing intermittent communication loss
- 7 Aftermarket accessories or poor previous repairs interfering with the CAN bus



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool that can communicate with all modules and check for other communication codes
- 2 Inspect the all-wheel-drive control module connectors for corrosion, water intrusion, or loose pins
- 3 Check the fuse and relay that supply power to the all-wheel-drive control module and test for voltage at the module
- 4 Test the CAN bus data lines for continuity, shorts to ground, or shorts to voltage using a wiring diagram
- 5 Perform a voltage drop test on the module's ground circuit to confirm a good ground
- 6 If wiring and power are good, substitute a known-good module or perform a module communication test to confirm failure
- 7 After repair, clear codes and verify that the all-wheel-drive system communicates and operates correctly

When the AWD module goes silent

- A common cause of U011D that technicians miss is a weak or failing battery; low voltage during cranking can drop the module offline and set a communication code without any hard fault.
- The code does not always mean the all-wheel-drive module is bad; a single chafed wire in the harness or a corroded ground point can produce the same lost-communication symptom.
- On many vehicles, the all-wheel-drive module is mounted low on the underbody where it is exposed to road spray and debris, making connector corrosion a frequent culprit.
- If other modules on the same CAN bus also set communication codes, the fault is likely a shared bus issue rather than the all-wheel-drive module itself.
- Some vehicles require reprogramming or calibration of a replacement all-wheel-drive module, so a used module may not communicate until it is properly configured.

Can I keep driving with U011D?

You can usually drive the vehicle with U011D set, but the all-wheel-drive system may be disabled, reducing traction in rain, snow, or loose surfaces. Avoid driving in conditions that require all-wheel drive and have the fault diagnosed soon to prevent further communication issues.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional communication and module access
- Digital multimeter for voltage, continuity, and resistance tests
- Wiring diagram for the vehicle's CAN bus and all-wheel-drive module circuits
- Test light or power probe for checking power and ground
- Socket set and trim removal tools for accessing the module and harness



Reading U011D

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 1** Lost communication with a control module.
- 1D** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0100 Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0101** Lost Communication with TCM · **U0114** Lost Communication With Four-Wheel Drive Clutch Control Modu · **U0121** Lost Communication With Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) Control · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Coil-on-Plug Ignition Works: Coil and Spark Plug](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u011d/>

