

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0182

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0182

Lost Communication With Lighting Control Module Front

U0182 is a network communication fault indicating that the module responsible for monitoring the vehicle's data bus has lost contact with the front lighting control module, which manages headlamps, turn signals, and other forward lighting functions. The computer detected that expected periodic messages from the front lighting control module stopped arriving over the controller area network (CAN) bus, triggering the code and typically illuminating the 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

- Warning light on the dashboard, often the check engine light or a dedicated communication fault indicator
- Front headlamps, turn signals, or daytime running lights may fail to operate or behave erratically
- Lighting functions may default to a fail-safe mode, such as headlamps stuck on high beam or turn signals not flashing
- Intermittent lighting operation that correlates with rough road surfaces or temperature changes
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light when the fault is stored but communication is only momentarily interrupted
- Other unrelated electrical accessories may act strangely if the lighting module shares a bus segment with other modules

Common causes, most likely first

- Damaged or corroded wiring harness between the front lighting control module and the main body controller or CAN bus splice
- Loose, backed-out, or corroded connector pins at the front lighting control module or at an intermediate inline connector
- Failed front lighting control module due to internal electronics fault or water intrusion
- Blown fuse or poor ground connection supplying power or ground to the front lighting control module
- CAN bus wiring fault such as an open circuit, short to ground, or short to voltage on the bus pair
- Low battery voltage or charging system issue causing modules to drop offline intermittently
- Aftermarket lighting accessories or improper electrical repairs introducing bus interference or excessive load



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charging system output, as low voltage is a common cause of spurious communication codes
- 2 Inspect the front lighting control module connectors and harness for corrosion, loose pins, or chafed wiring, especially near moving components
- 3 Check all fuses and grounds that feed the front lighting control module using a wiring diagram for the specific vehicle
- 4 Perform a voltage drop test on the power and ground circuits to the module to confirm they can carry current under load
- 5 Use a scan tool to clear the code and observe live data for the lighting module to see if communication returns or remains intermittent
- 6 Measure CAN bus resistance and voltage at the module connector to rule out bus wiring faults, comparing to manufacturer specifications
- 7 If all wiring and power supplies test good, substitute a known-good module or perform a module swap with a compatible unit to confirm the module is at fault

What most technicians overlook on U0182

- A front lighting control module that has lost its ground connection can still power up intermittently through the bus lines, causing communication codes without any obvious lighting failure.
- Water intrusion into the front lighting control module housing is a frequent cause on vehicles where the module is mounted low behind the bumper, and the corrosion often damages pins before the module fails completely.
- The code can be set by a momentary voltage dip during engine cranking, so always check for a weak battery before condemning the module.
- Aftermarket LED or HID lighting kits that tap into factory wiring can backfeed voltage and disrupt bus communication, setting U0182 even though the module itself is healthy.
- Some vehicles require the front lighting control module to be initialized or configured after replacement, and a used module may not communicate until properly programmed.

Can I keep driving with U0182?

You can usually drive the vehicle with U0182 stored, but be aware that front lighting functions may be degraded or inoperative, which reduces visibility and safety at night. Avoid driving after dark or in poor weather until the fault is repaired, and do not ignore the code if lighting performance is affected.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and bidirectional communication capability
- Digital multimeter with voltage, resistance, and duty cycle functions
- Wiring diagram and connector pinout for the specific vehicle
- Test light or load probe for circuit loading tests
- Trim removal tools for accessing module connectors
- CAN bus breakout box or oscilloscope for advanced bus diagnostics

Reading U0182

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.
82	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0100 Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U0155** Lost Communication With Body Control Module · **U0181** Lost Communication With Headlamp Leveling Control Module · **U0183** Lost Communication With Lighting Control Module Rear

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [V6 Engine Explained: 60° Bank and Firing Order](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0182/>

