

OBD System Monitor Readiness Codes

We are unable to complete the OBD testing of your vehicle because on-board emission monitors were “not ready” to complete the test.



What does “not ready” for OBD testing mean?

Most of today's vehicle have built-in, On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) system monitors that test various emissions control components and systems when the engine is running. When an OBD scanner test tool is plugged into your vehicle's on-board diagnostic system through a connector under the dashboard, the monitors send messages to the test equipment indicating whether they are “ready” or “not ready” for OBD testing. If a monitor does not have enough information to pass or fail its assigned emissions component or system in the vehicle, a “not ready” or “incomplete” message is sent to the test equipment. If your monitors continue to be unset, your vehicle could fail.

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What causes the OBD monitors to be “not ready”?

A power loss to the vehicle’s OBD system may cause the monitors to read “not ready”. A power loss may occur when the vehicle’s battery is replaced, or when repair work is done that requires the vehicle’s battery to be disconnected. The monitors will change to a “not ready” status when trouble codes are erased from the system following OBD repairs to turn off the “check engine” or similar warning light. If the monitors indicate that they are “not ready” when you bring the vehicle in for an OBD test. The Vehicle has to be driven long enough for the monitors to reset themselves.



What can be done to get my vehicle “ready” for testing?

Usually, driving the vehicle in a normal manner for one week allows enough time for the monitors to reset themselves to a “ready” status.

When returning to a test station, bring the “Extension/Release Notice” (EP-030) that was issued to you when the vehicle was determined to be not ready for testing.

For more information about your vehicle and the OBD test, please visit the website of the Maryland Department of Environment at: www.mde.state.md.us

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