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House Democrats begin leadership elections, with Hakeem Jeffries poised to clinch speaker nomination: live



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Jeffries is widely expected to win and, with Democrats poised to hold a sizeable House majority, secure a glide path to the speakership when the full chamber votes in January. If elected Speaker, Jeffries would become the first Black person to hold the gavel in US history.

Jeffries is not facing a challenger, and despite the possibility of some defections from the incoming progressives, he is still expected to have the 218 votes needed to win on the House floor.

Democrats will cast votes for House majority leader and whip, and the caucus chair and vice chair, among other positions.