New Jersey Chronology, 1786–1788

1786

21 January–23 February
Virginia issues call for commercial convention to meet at Annapolis.

14 March
Legislature receives Virginia’s call for commercial convention.

21 March
Legislature elects Abraham Clark, William Churchill Houston, and James Schureman delegates to convention at Annapolis.

11–14 September
Annapolis Convention: Calls for convention to meet in Philadelphia in May 1787.

2 October
New Jersey Gazette prints report of Annapolis Convention.

10 October
Annual legislative election.

23 November
Legislature elects David Brearley, William Paterson, William Churchill Houston, and John Neilson to Constitutional Convention.

1787

21 February
Confederation Congress calls Constitutional Convention to meet in Philadelphia in May to amend Articles of Confederation.

18 May
Legislature elects William Livingston and Abraham Clark to Constitutional Convention.

25 May—17 September
Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia.

5 June
Legislature elects Jonathan Dayton to Constitutional Convention.

17 September
Constitutional Convention adjourns sine die.

25 September
Constitution printed in New Brunswick broadside and in Trenton Mercury.

9 October
Annual legislative election.

23 October—7 November
Legislative session.

25 October
Constitution read to Assembly.

26 October
Assembly adopts resolutions calling state Convention.
29 October
Council concurs with Assembly resolutions.

30 October
Assembly authorizes state Convention.

1 November
Council concurs with authorization of state Convention.

7 November
Legislature adjourns.

27 November—1 December
Election of delegates to state Convention.

11–20 December
State Convention meets in Trenton.

18 December
Convention ratifies Constitution 38 to 0.

19 December
Form of Ratification signed.

20 December
Convention adjourns sine die.

1788

9 January
Governor William Livingston sends circular letter to chief executives of other states announcing ratification by New Jersey

1 February
New Jersey Form of Ratification delivered to Confederation Congress.

Original source: Ratification by the States, Volume III: Delaware, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut