A Delphi Study of Research Priorities in Tech Prep

For which topic were research priorities identified?
Tech Prep

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?
North America - USA

Why was it conducted at all?
Technical Preparation, commonly referred to as Tech Prep, is a significant aspect of vocational education literature. The results may contribute to scholarly efforts toward establishing a research agenda for Tech Prep educators in four-year college and university teacher education programs. Three research questions were developed to identify and prioritize the goals and directions. 1. What are the proposed research needs for Tech Prep educators over the next ten years? 2. What major research categories are identified for the next ten years by the subject matter experts (SMEs) in Tech Prep? 3. What should be the research priorities for Tech Prep over the next ten years?

What was the objective?
to determine research priorities in tech prep

What was the outcome?
a ranking list of 26 research questions

How long did the research prioritization take?
No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?
Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?
Step 1: Delphi round 1: participants were asked to generate or identify research needs (priorities) in Tech Prep over the next 10 years, participants were directed to develop five research questions or problems that they felt should be addressed, 187 submissions. Step 2: data processing: thematic analysis: removal of duplicates, 98 edited items. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rate each item and to rank the 10 major categories by importance. Step 4: Delphi round 3: participants were asked to evaluate round 2 results and change if needed

Which stakeholders took part?
Tech Prep subject matter experts (SMEs): teacher educators and administrators. Delphi round 1: 33 participants. Delphi round 2: 30 participants. Delphi round 3: 27 participants.

How were stakeholders recruited?
In addition to their national reputations, the SMEs were selected because of their involvement with the National Tech Prep Network, which collaborates and articulates with the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD).

Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?
Stakeholders were mere participants of the research prioritization process; they were not actively involved in the process.